Yemen celebrates merger anniversary

SANAA (AP) - Yemenis cheered and danced in the streets Saturday as the country celebrated the third anniversary of the merger of North and South Yemen, President Ali Abdullah Saleh, whose party recently won 40 per cent of the parliament seats in the first post-merger elections, called on all official, national and party members "to concentrate their efforts and energies to build a prosperous future for the nation ...." The April 27 elections marked the end of the transitional stage since the merger on May 22, 1990. It brought the first multiparty system to the Arabian Peninsula. Mr. Saleh was asked by parliament to continue to lead the five-member presidential council while it debates a proposal on substituting only a president and vice-president. He has said he will have a coalinon government. "This stage meeds logical, clear policies to meet the changes on the national, regional, Islamic and international levels." Mr. Saich said Friday in a nationwide address on radio and television. "The coalition of the parties that won in the election, does not mean the cancellanon of the opposition role ... or denying others rights to exist and participate in bearing the responsibilities of national action," he said. He also urged efforts to develop Yemen's foreign relations on the basis of the duties of the new government and all state institutions called for a new "mechanism" which would do away with the "defects" of the transitional period.

Celebrations in Amman, page 3

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Volume 17 Number 5314

AMMAN SUNDAY, MAY 23, 1993 THUL HIJEH 2, 1413

#### China beats Pakistan

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AMMAN (J.T.) — China beat Pakistan 5-0 in their World Cup qualifying Asian Group A first round match in Irbid Saturday (half time 1-0). Earlier Yemen drew I-1 with Jordan (see page 9)

#### **Dutch minister visits** Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Dutch Foreign Minister Peter Kooijmans arrived Saturday for consultation with Syrian leaders on the Middle East peace process and the Yugoslav issue. Mr. Kooijmans, who arrived from Cairo on the second leg of a regional tour, told reporters that the purpose of his visit was to acquaint himself with the Syrian government's evaluation of the Arab-Israeli peace process fol-lowing the ninth round of the hilateral talks in Washington. He spoke in the presence of Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa, who was at the airport to greet his Dutch guest. The two misters went straight to the Foreign Ministry where official talks started. "In the first place, I would like to hear what is the evaluation of the Syrian government after the ninth round," Mr. Kooijmans said. "And another problem that is threatening the world, is what is happening in former Yugoslavia. "I would like to bear what the views of the Syrian government are because that was a problem we have oot been able to solve until now."

#### Ben Baz opposes murder of foreigners

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's highest religious anthority said in remarks published Saturday that it was against Islamic principles to kili a foreigner visiting a Muslim. country or to revolt against a ruler adhering to Islam. "It is not permitted to kill a non-believer whose safety is guaranteed by the state," Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ben Baz, head of the administration of religious scholarship and rulin told the London-based Arabic newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat. "It is not permitted to revolt against the ruler except in two conditions - one is proven widespread godlessness and the other is ability to remove the ruler without incurring more evil consequences," he was quoted as saying in an interview. Sheikh Ben Baz's rulings are usually followed as religious edicts. He made no direct reference to Egypt, where Muslim fundamentalists have targetted tourists, officials, military officers and Christians as part of a year-long campaign to overthrow the government and set up an Islamie

#### **Xuwait** group seeks camp closure

KUWAIT (R) - The Kuwaiti parliament's human rights com-mittee has called for the closure of a detention centre used to house deportees, but has denied allegations inmates were mistreated, a newspaper reported Saturday. Committee spokesman Ahmad Al Nassar said 480 men and 100 women were held at controversial Talha compound, whose inmates include common criminals awaiting expulsion after serving prison terms and foreigners suspected of security offences, the English-language Arah Times said. Mr. Nassar gave no reason for the closure recomendation and said without elaborating that conditions at the centre had improved recently Talba was turned from a school into one of the couotry's main detention centre for foreigners immediately after the 1991 Gulf

#### 2,000 Danes protest against riot shootings

COPENHAGEN (R) - About 2,000 Danes, waving banners and chanting slogans, protested in Copenhagen Saturday against police shootings of 11 demonstrators in an anti-European Community (EC) riot. Tuesdsay's riot crupted after Danes voted in a referendum to accept the EC's Maastricht Treaty on economic, monetary and political orion. "The Danish police are fascists" and murderers" protesters manted as they marched from the Noerrebro suburb where police shot and wounded 11 people during the riot, the most violent in Denmark's modern history.

King warns media against 'enemies of democracy, freedom and human rights'

His Majesty urges' journalists to seek truth and rise above rhetoric and slander

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday warned the Jordanian media to guard against what he described as the enemies of democracy, freedom and human rights.

Addressing editors of daily and weekly newspapers at a meeting at the Royal Court, King Hussein also warned against pursuing material gains at the expense of principles, right and the truth.

Speaking five days after a new Press and Publications Law comes into effect, the King urged the editors to shoulder their responsibility and adhere to the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution, the National Charter and the new law. He urged them to

seek the truth in their coverage of

events and stay above rhetoric

and slander, Following are major excerpts of the King's address to the press; "You have major responsibilidemocratic march at this crucial stage we are going through in our country and the great Arab

have this meeting with you and I mean a major setback for the welcome all those present in the prospects of progress and success

to enforce safe areas in Bosnia

and to ary and stop the fighting

from spreading, but stopped short of endorsing President Bill

Clinton's proposal to use military

U.S. Secretary of State Warren

Christopher said the United States

was prepared to use force only to

protect U.N. peacekeepers if

escalate pressure on the Bosnian

Serbs 'to stop the killing," Mr.

Christopher said in announcing the decision of the United States,

Russia, Spain, France and Britain

While Serbia and its proxies in

Bosnia were the main targets, the

five nations warned Croatia it ran

the risk of economic sanctions for

its part in the fighting.

British Foreign Secretary

Dooglas Hurd stressed, "these

are only the first steps" and that

"no one is pretending this is going to be an easy road."

enforce" existing sanctions

against Yugoslavia and increase

the international presence in the

former Republic of Macedonia.

The allies agreed to "rigorously

The aim of the measures is to

they came under attack.

at a news conference.

Press and Publications Law. which guarantees the freedom of the press, publishing and express-ion within the framework of the Constitution and the framework of safeguarding rights and public daties and the respect of other people's freedoms.

"I hope that the enactment of the law will constitute the beginning of a new era for the implementation of the National Charter which provided for this law, including provisions for the

"As to the oature of the present stage I believe that you are all in the picture ... as to its critical nature, its seriousness and its difficulty. Success or failure of this stage does not reflect on us as individuals or a certain group of

"Success will be good and be-neficial in terms of what this country can offer as a model and an example to others in this world. Failure, God forbid, will not be restricted to us in its effects and consequences, but "Naturally I am pleased to rather, in my opinion, it would

U.S., allies plan Bosnia action

embargo against Bosnian Serbs is enforced. Mr. Christopher said

the monitors woold be stationed

-Continue, enforcing the ban on

military fights over Bosnia, rapid-

ly establish a war crimes tribunal

and encourage gradual imple-mentation of an international

tious against Croatia.

Warn of international sanc-

- Stop the spread of fighting by

increasing the international pre-sence in Macedonia, provide in-

ternational monitoring in Koso-

Mr. Cbristopber ruled out sending U.S. ground troops to

Bosnia or other areas io the

Baikans. The New York Times

reported Saturday that the Uo-

ited States was offering its air.

power to protect European forces

Mr. Clinton bad proposed lift-

ing the U.N. arms embargo.

against Bosnia and bombing Serb

artillery sites to force a political

settlement, but the allies refused

to go along. The United States

settled for more modest measures

to end the war in which an

guarding the safe havens.

only where Serbia approves.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The \_\_ The allies also agreed to: \_\_ Monitor, provide technical

United States, Russia and three assistance and surveillance to en-

European allies agreed Saturday sure that Belgrade's announced

wake of the enactment of the on the national level in our Arah and Islamic world alike.

"We had frequently met in the past, and I see new faces joining us now for the first time in this meeting, and I hope that I will meet them more often in the future. This is your place and

This occasion I warn the media to guard against the enemies of democracy, freedom and buman rights. I also implore God that none of these elements are lurking among us... not at any stage... of those who could be described as those who seek material gains at the expense of principles, right

"You bave serious responsibilities in guidance and in controlling whatever is published and in adhering first of all to the Constitution and to this law which gave everyone the chance to exercise his or her role in a manner that would please God and satisfy one's conscience and to serve this country and this march at a time considered as one of the most difficult we have ever encoun-

(Continued on page 10)

estimated 138,000 people have

Juppe had called on Mr. Christ-opher to promote establishing areas for displaced civilians in

Bosnia. The proposal was accepted, and Mr. Christopher

said each nation would contribute

France bas proposed an inter-

national army of up to 40,000

troops to occupy the safe areas in Bosnia. The Security Council on

May 6 had declared the safe areas

to be Bosnia's capital Sarajevo,

Tuzia. Zepa, Gorazde, Bihac and

Srebrenica. It said the areas

should be free of armed attacks

and called on Bosnian Serb forces

The French proposal, a copy of

which was obtained by the

Associated Press on May 14 at

the United Nations, suggests a

range of options, from a symbolic

force of \$,600 that would simply

deter aggression to one of up to

40,000 that would oppose aggres-

sion and "occupy key points."

Military force would be used

against attackers who shell the six

areas or disrupt humanitarian re-

See related story on page 8.

lief convoys.

to withdraw immediately.

French Foreign Minister Alain

died or disappeared.

### Iran says Iraq broke ceasefire

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran ac-cused Iraq Saturday of violating the ceasefire that ended their 1980-1988 war by harbonring and arming rebels seeking to over-

Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) ground forces, quoted by Iranian radio, said operations in the north-west of the country were designed to "silence counter-revolutionary elements

Mohammad Ali Jafari said in

Gen. Jafari accused Iraq of violating the terms of the ceasefire. "Giving sanctuary to counter-revolutionaries and enemies of the Islamic republic, and the fact they are provided with arms in Iraq, is in itself a blatant violation of the ceasefire, for which we bave sufficient evi-

He said there had also been a number of explosions in southern border areas. "These desperate moves are timed to coincide with

Iran holds presidential elec-

The Mujahedeen-e-Kbalq oppositioo group said Wednesday its guerrillas blew up an ammunition dump in the southern oil refinery city of Abadan and killed dozens of Revolutionary Guards in attacks in the past week. The Mujahedeen has bases in Iraq bnt has said Iran-based members took part io the attacks.

Iran has informed U.N Secretary-General Boutros Ghali that it holds Iraq responsible for the attacks, the official Iranian

throw its government. The commander of the Islamic

and mercenaries." "The IRGC is determined to

continue to pursue and crush the terrorist elements until their mischievous acts are completely re-pelled," Birgadier General remarks monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation

the forthcoming presidential elec-

tions on June II.

news agency said.

### PNC speaker plans to resign, criticises PLO and negotiators

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

His Majesty King Hussein Saturday meets with editors-in-chief of local publications (Petra photo)

AMMAN - The speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, said Saturday he was resigning his post because of poor health and disillusionment with the course of Middle East peace talks.

Sheikh Sayeh, PNC speaker since November 1984, also called on the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to withdraw the Palestinian delegation from the 19-month peace negotiations with Israel.

"I call upon the Palestinian leadership to suspend Palestinian participation in the negotiations," he said.

"It has become clear that the talks are not getting anywhere," he said. "How long are we going to continue making concessions and negotiate, with no progress on the Palestinian cause?

Sheikh Sayeh said be had informed the PLO headquarters of his decision to resign as PNC speaker and that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had contacted him over the phon-Saturday urging him to recon-

"I told him I cannot do that since I do not want to be accused of damaging the Palestinian cause," Sheikh Sayeh told the Jordan Times. "Tragedies are befalling the Palestinians and I do not want

to be hlamed in history ..."
The widely-respected PNC speaker criticised the PLO leadership and the Palestinian negotiating team for contradicting each other in public

"Someone says something in Tunis (where the PLO is headquartered) and someone else says something else in Washington (where the peace talks are held)," he said.



Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh

"At a time when we need a united Palestinian voice and stand we are hearing different statements from the PLO leadership and the negotiators, and this is not acceptable to me," said Sheikh Sayeh.

"Obviously there are major differences between the Palestine leadership and the nego-

The criticism by the usually reserved Sheikh Sayeh was seen as a serious sethack for Mr. Arafat, who is under pressure from hardline PLO factions and Muslim fundamentalists to withdraw from the talks. Several hardline Palestinian

factions say they support the concept of peace talks with Israel hut under better negotiating terms. Others totally reject the peace process.

Fundamentalist groups rule out any dealing with the Jewish state and call for holy war to liberate Palestine.

Sheikh Sayeh said his deteriorating health also played a key role in his decision to quit as PNC speaker.

"My doctor told me 1 should not continue to occupy any

pressures are too much," said Sheikh Sayeh, So, speaking from his home where he is resting after being discharged from hospital last week.

official posts since the political

Sheikh Sayeh, who has been ill and in and out of hospitals in Jordan and abroad for the better part of the last two years. said he accepted the inevitability of negotiating a solution to the Palestinian problem but opposed the "imposition of a solution.

He said Israel was trying to impose a settlement which does not satisfy the minimum Palestinian demands and the U.S. was supporting the Israeli position.

"Israel does not respect U.N. resolutions and the U.S. is not willing to pressure the Israelis," he said. "Without such pressure any solution to not be just and will not meet the Palestinian aspirations."

Sheikh Sayeh, who has been away from active work related to the PNC for some months, said he planned to tender his resignation when the council meets next. The PNC, which sets Palestinian policy, last met in 1991, shortly before the Middle East peace process got off the ground in Madrid.

The next PNC meeting has not been scheduled. But informed sources said Palestinian activists were trying to convene the council before the next round of talks start in Washington next month.

Sheikh Sayeh was elected speaker of the PNC during the 17th session of the council held in Amman in late 1984. He succeeded Khaled Al Fahoum. who fell out with Mr. Arafat following the PLO's departure from Beirut in 1982.

Mr. Fahoum now leads an umbrella group of dissident PLO factions based in Dams-

## Expected high voter turnout in elections seen to help non-Islamists

In the third and last of a series of articles on parliamentary elections, Ayman Al Safadi looks at the main factors expected to influence the outcome of elections for Jordan's 12th Parliament. The first article appeared in the Jordan Times issue of May 13-14, the second on May 15.

AMMAN - A projected major increase in voter turnout for the next elections and a tangible change in the issues that infloenced voters' choice of candidates in the 1989 elections are expected to have a substantial impact on the composition of the 12th legislature. Nearly twice the number of

Jordanians who voted in the 1989 elections are expected to go to the polls this year and observers predict the increase in voter turnout will work to the disadvantage of the Islamists, who form the largest bloc at the Lower House of Parlia-

The Islamists are expected to be negatively affected by the projected rise because the new voters would be from outside their constituencies, which reportedly bad the largest turnout in the last elections; not because their base of support has eroded foor years after

they won the largest number of seats in the House, say observers and political analysts.

In the 1989 elections, 41.14 per cent of the then 1.35 million eligible voters cast their votes; with the highest turnout reported among Islamist sup-porters. According to recent poll conducted by the Centre for Strategie Studies at the University of Jordan,, 76 per cent of the eligible voters are considering going to the polls to elect Jordan's 12th Parlia-

In 1989, the Islamists received "90 per cent (of the votes) they could have hoped a political science professor told the Jordan Times upon the announcement of the 1989 election results. "They garnered every vote they could count on," a Western observer

Accordingly, "it is a safe bid

that every one who did not vote would not have voted for

The well-knit organisational structure of the Muslim Brotherhood, which won 23 out of the 80 seats in the Lower House, enabled it to mobilise the majority of its supporters.

While other candidates were not able to lure their supporters to the ballot boxes, the Brotherhood members located every potential vote it had and worked to secure it. The projected increase in

voter turnout is thus expected to work to the advantage of non-Islamist candidates.

The votes of the new batch of eligible voters who turned 19 after 1989 and those of the returnees from the Gulf are also expected to influence the outcome of the next elections, schednled for later this year.

Although there have been no reported studies on the voting patterns of either of these two groups, indications are that the young voters will support the Islamists. The Strategic Studies Centre

poll revealed that "those who

were more inclined towards the Islamic bloc... were mostly males, aged 19-34, onmarried, with post high school education and employees or selfemployed."

Results of student council elections at Jordanian universities also indicate that the Islamists would receive the majority of the young votes. In the University of Jordan student council elections in March, Islamist caodidates won 71 out of the 80 contested seats. They bad similar strong showings at Mnta and Yarmouk universities.

As for the returnees from the Gulf states, theories con-flict on how their votes would affect the outcome of the elections as far as the Islamists are concerned.

"Most of the returnees are Palestinian Jordanians, and Palestinians tend to vote for Islamists," said one observer who asked not to be named.

Others, however, argue that most of the returnees, who lost their jobs in the Gulf, are disenchanted with the Islamists for supporting Iraq during the

1990 Gulf war; a stand which they believe led to their evic-tion from the Gulf states.

The Palestinian factor is also expected to be more visible in the coming elections in light of the conflict between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the coalition of the Ìslamic Resistance Movement. Hamas, and the Brotherhood.

The fate of the peace process would determine who will win the battle, which is expected to be fiercely fought out during the elections, observers say.

With the continuous failure

of the peace process to achieve tangihle progress, more and more people are leaning towards the Islamists' side in rejecting the negotiations. The Brotherhood, supported by Hamas in its crusade against the PLO, is expected to tap on this sentiment during the elections and lure every vote that opposes the peace process.

"The Brotherbood and Hamas will battle the PLO in the coming elections. The fight will be among supporters and opponents of the peace process," says prominent lawyer Salim Sweiss. If the peace process remains stalemated, said Mr. Sweiss, PLO factions which back the negotiations would lose their support to the advantage of the Islamists. with voters frustrated with the peace process giving their vote to its most outspoken oppo-

nents — the Islamists. If progress is achieved in the negotiations, however, the peace process would regain some of the initial support it had when it was launched and the conflict between the two groups would end up to the disadvantage of the Islamists. observers say.

A change in the issues that influenced the preference of the electorate in the previous elections is also expected to have its impact on voters choice of candidates for the next legislature.

In 1989, alleged government corruption and abuse of office heavily affected the outcome of the elections which were held months after Jordanians rioted against deteriorating livmg standards for which they

blamed the policy of the government.

Accordingly, fiery slogans against the status quo and opposition to its policies gained popularity among a disgruntled electorate, observers

Four years later, people are more concerned with every day problems and according to the University of Jordan poll, the first of its kind in the Kingdom. they want deputies who can address their immediate problems and provide services.

While some observers say this preference would work against the Islamists whose victory was helped by broad slogans, others say that the Islamist vote cannot be reduced to a protest vote.

"It is an oversimplification of the reality in Jordan to reduce the Islamist vote to a protest vote," says Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies Mustafa Hamarneh, who

supervised the poll. They have middle class support, a solid lock on a number of seats," he said.

## Clinton is confident peace could be achieved in Cyprus .

VASHINGTON (AP) — Presi-tent Bill Clinton said after meeting the new president of Cyprus riday "we have the best chance "e've had in quite a long time" for peaceful resolution of the Spute between Greek and Turiish Cypriots.

President Glafcos Clerides said arrier he saw a "glimpse of hope" for ending the 19-year moasse hetween the two communities of the island and inended to ask Mr. Clinton for a U.S. guarantee of a settlement.

After their meeting, Mr. Clinton said. "We want to do what we can to promote a good agreement there and we're going to be actively involved in working toward a peaceful settlement. The tall:s are just about to start again and I don't think I should say or oo anything which could disrupt

The two presidents met in advance of Mr. Clerides' negotia-tions next week at the United Nations with Turkish Cypriot and lack of funds leader Rauf Denktash. Mr. Clerides sai

Mr. Clinton also said, "I really appreciate the attitude he (Clerides) has taken, and I think that have the best chance we've had in quite a long time to have a peaceful, successful completion of these talks."

The Greek Cypriot leader said he only came to attend the talks because he had received assurances that the U.N. Security Council will renew the mandate of the U.N. peacekeeping force on Cyprus for another six months on June 15.

If the U.N. troops stationed along a "green line" separating zones controlled by the feuding Turkish and Greek Cypriots pul-led out, it would have created "an-explosive situation" Mr. Clerides

Coontries providing troops have threatened to withdraw them, citing lack of progress in the 19-year Cyprus negotiations



settlement in advance. As a guarantor power, the United States would have the obligation to intervene to enforce the terms of a Cyprus agreement, such a role would have to be accepted by all parties.

Mr. Clerides said such a

Mr. Clerides said the glimpse of hope he saw was the possible

return by Turks of Varosha, a

beach area south of the port of Famagusta, as a "confidence-building measure" to spur prog-

ress towards a political solution.

some indications the Turks might

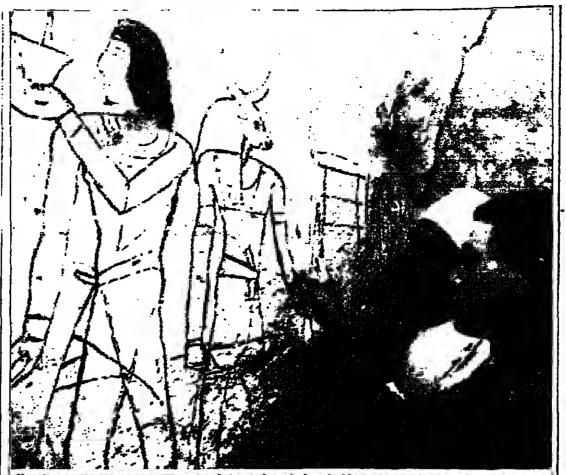
turn Varosha over to be policed

and administered by U.N. troops

Mr. Clerides said there are

guarantee would be "reassuring" for both sides. "I will certainly put that issue to President Clinton," he said.

He said the U.S. role is "paramount" to a Cyprus solution be-cause of its influence with Tur-



inspect the paintings inside a pharaonic tomb discovered near the Giza Pyramids (AFP photo)

### Egyptians find 3,200- year-old tomb

ABU SIR, Egypt (R) - Archaeologists have found a 3,200-year-old underground tomb near the Pyramids of Giza and say it might be part of an entire previouslyunknown necropolis.

"We are in front of a very big discovery," the director of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation (EAO), Mohammad Ibrahim Bakr, told reporters Saturday outside the tomb, cut into a sand-covered slope of rock rising above the village of Abu Sir.

The tomb consists of a limestone-paved courtyard and a room cut into the rock at one level and a series of . four chambers underneath stretching deep into the desert hillside. It was built for a man named Nakh-Min. 'overseer of chariots" and messenger to foreign lands" .f.

for the Pharoh Ramses II. Ramses the Great reigned for 67 years in the 13th century B.C. during the new kingdom period of ancient Egypt, when the pharoah controlled a military empire stretching into what is now

The three pyramids of Giza, 12 kilometres northwest of Abu Sir, and the pyramids and tombs of Sakkara, just to the south, all belong to the much earlier old kingdom, which began about 5,000 years ago, The area is just beyond the southem outskirts of Cairo.

"It might be the beginning of the discovery of a whole necropolis in Abu Sir," said one of the EAO archaeologists working on the site. "This is the first time to have new kingdom tombs here."

Mr. Bakr said the tomh was discovered three weeks ago. Khaled Mohammad Abu Ila, an EAO inspector at Sakkara, said villagers had found a hole leading to the upper-level room,

The brick, mud and thatch houses of Abu Sir are built right up to the slope which concealed the tomb.

"The police told the inspectorate that there are some people stealing from the place here. We did not total know whether there was a tomb here or not, so we decided to excavate the area

The third of the four underground chambers, about four metres square and 1.5 metres high, is decorated . with figures of animal-headed gods, representations of gateways and inscriptions from the "book of the Gates," a book of spells to guide the soul through the underworld.

Mr. Bakr said it was the first time the Book of the Gates had been found in a tomh in the Sakkara-Giza

The paintings are outlined in black on whitewashed plaster. They were not colonred in, as ancient Egyptian wall paintings usually are, and look unfinished, As if Nakh-Min died unexpectedly and the tomb had to be made

ready in a hurry. The floor of the chamber is piled with rock which has, collapsed from the 'robf' above. Labourers are cutting wooden props to prevent further collapses and clearing sand from other chambers.

The fourth chamber, beyond and below the third. is still largely blocked with

### 9 Iragis, 4 Saudis killed in clashes at Rafha camp

U.S. Fresident Bill Clinton (right) Friday meets with Cyprus President Glacos Clarides at the White House (AFP photo)

RIYADH (AP) — The govern-ment disclosed Saturday that 13 wounded man. They also blocked people were killed in a violent cissa between Saudi security men and Iraqi refugees in a camp near the Sandi-Iraqi border more than

two months ago. Another 12 Iraqis were injured in the March 9 ricts, sparked by the Iraqis' demand that the kingdorn opeo its borders to more refugees fleeing Iraq, the official Sauci Press Agency (SPA) said. It was the first official word of

any disturbances at the Rafha camp, set up in 1990 for an estimated 45,000 Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) or Shi'ite Muslims who fled their country.

Quoting an informed source, a suphemism for a government spokesman, the Saudi agency said the authorities withheld news of the riot until investigation was completed.

It said refugees equipped with "domestically manufactured swords and hatchets" gathered at the gates of Rafha camp and began pelring Saudi guards, demanding that infiltrators from Iraq be allowed into the camp.

Despite a two-year-old Sandi decision not to allow any more Iraqis into the camp, authorities agreed to give women and children coming from Iraq sanctuary ar Rafha, it said.

"But they persisted in their violence against the guards and began trying to dislocate the peri-

meter wires near the gate," the agency said. Fire engines poured water on the demonstrators seeking to dis-

perse them, but when that failed guards fired in the air. Demonstrators inside the camp then stormed a complex of build-

ings bousing education, medical and administration offices. A refugee was shot in the shoulder as he tried to seize the weapon of a Saudi guard, the agency said. The Iraqis prevented

#### vanishing change with wounded man. They also blocked Saodi volunteer teachers who

The demonstrators carried the body on their shoulders, and thousands of refugees then joined the rampage, smashing windows and setting cars and buildings oo extract silver.

In one of the buildings set alight four Sandis hurned to death, the agency said.

"At this point, the (guards') command had to use force and fire in the air, while fire brigade cars fought the hlaze. Three persons (demonstrators) died and 17 were injured," the agency said. Five of the injured demonstrators later died of their wounds, it

tried to help him, and he hled to

Participants in the demonstration later confessed that the riot was aimed to "force the Saudi authorities to allow the infiltrators that came across the international borders to join the camp,'

the agency said. "Quoted the official source as saying that the incident would not affect the services extended to the refugees. But the sources also stressed that the government would not allow any acts that threaten "order and security" at the camp.

Some 7,000 of the camps' residents have been granted asylum in third countries and would be leaving this year, according to recent statistics released by the U.N. High Commissioner for Re-

Some 1,456 refugees chose re-patriation after the end of the 1991 Gulf war that ended Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait.

Most of the refugees are Shi'ite dissidents who tried to topple the Iraqi government after the Gulf

# Iraq replaces banknotes

BAGHDAD (R) --- Iraq's cen-tral bank is issuing new smalldenomination notes to replace coins, which have heen dis-appearing from circulation because they can be melted down to

Baghdad newspapers have accused smugglers, goldsmiths and even dentists of melting down the old coins.

The dentists' union issued a denial Saturday that coins were being recycled into patients' "The silver in the coins cannot be used for fillings," Dr. Ghalib Al Jassim, head of the union, said.

Currency is a constant headache for Iraqi officials struggling against post-Gulf war inflation and the effects of U.N. trade

Pre-war notes, trusted by users because they were printed abroad and harder to forge than newer locally produced bills, were withdrawn from circulation weeks ago.

A central bank statement carried by Baghdad newspapers on Saturday blamed the scarcity of coins on "suspicious elements using the metal coins for purposes other than money circulation to wreck the national economy."

The Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadissiyah said: "The central bank has taken the necessary measures to check the phenomenon of the scarcity of small coins in circulation and in cooperation with the concerned au-

"The bank and the ministry of finance have told security organs to take the necessary measures to stop contemptible weaklings us-ing small change for illegal ends," Al Qadissiyah said.

# Kaaba washed in traditional ceremony

MECCA (AP) — On behalf of King Fahd, Mecca Governor Prince Majed early Saturday led the ceremony of the washing of the Holy Kaaba, Islam's hobest shrine around which the Grand Mosque of Mecca is built.

The ceremony took place as customary on the first day of Zhul Hijja, the Islamic calendar month during which Muslims from around the world gather at Mecca for the annual Haj, the pilgrimage that is one of the five pillars of the faith.

The washing of the Kaaba, known as "ghusl," was attended by senior Saudi Arabian officials, accredited diplomats and some of the Muslims dignitaries who have arrived in Saudi Arabia to perform Hai.

So far more than 600,000 Muslims have arrived in the kingdom for the Haj. The number is increasing day by day with an average of 26,000 arrivals daily by air through King

Abdul Aziz International Airport in Jeddah. Thousands of others arrive by sea or by land. Among those arriving by land are thousands of Iragis through

the kingdom's northwestern bor-

der crossing at Arar. Thousands of Libyans, whose country i under civil aviation embargo come through the Sinai by sea or land via Egypt. Iran's ambassador to the Orga-

nisation of Islamie Conference, Sabah Zinkanna, said his country will have 117,000 pilgrims this year. It will be among the largest contingents. Egypt will have 75,000-80,000.

The pilgrimage rituals climax on the ninth day of Zhul Hijja, this year coinciding with May 30, with the stand on Arafat, after which the Haj is considered virtually over.

The final rituals, following the Prophet Mohammad's footsteps 1400 years ago, start on May 29 with the ascent from Mecca to the outside plain of Mina, where the pilgrims will stay the night and proceed early morning next day to Arafat, which is about five kilometres (5.6 miles) away from

The Kaaba is washed twice every year. Aside fram the Zhul-Hijja one, it is also washed on the 15th of Shaaban, which precedes the Ramadan month of dawn-todusk fasting.

The ceremony entails washing

the floor of the structure with water from zamzam, a nearby well which has been running since the days of Prophet Ismail. Ceramic brooms and rose water are also used.

The inside of the Kaaba structure is then incensed with frankincense. Embedded in the side of the structure is the black stone dating to Prophet Abraham's

After the washing, the water was carried away in small buckets with pilgrims who crowded the grounds of the Grand Mosque rushing to get a drip of the liquid they see blessed, and chanting Allahn Akbar.

The Kaaba was also Saturday dressed in its new black velvet kiswa, the outside covering dress. The kiswa is an impressive work of art done solely by Saudi craftsmen in a factory specially built in Mecca for the purpose. It costs more than 17 million Saudi riyals (\$4.5 million) and is made up of 47 different pieces of each 14 metres long and 95 centimetres

Embroidered with verses from the Koran, the kiswa is intricately woven with gold and silver

### MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Senator introduces bill on Libya sanctions

WASHINGTON (AP) — AU.S. senator Friday introduced a bill which would carry tough penalties for companies and individuals who violate United Nations sanctions against Libys. Senator Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut said the law is needed because of continued violations of the U.N. sanctions, ordered in 1992 to force Libya to give up for trial in Britain of the United States two suspects in the 1989 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland. The sanctions banned air traffic to and from Libya, and sale of arms, aircraft, aircraft spare parts and related services to Libya. The new law would prevent any company which violates the sanctions from doing any husiness in the United States. It would increase the fine for Americans who violate the trade sanctions tenfold to \$100,000. It would increase the penalty for American who continue to work in Lihya despite a U.S. prohibition on travel to Libya to \$50,000 for misusing their passports. Mr. Lieberman said in a statement that the State Department estimates there are about 500 Americans still working in Libya, mainly in the oil industry. His hill would also facilitate relocation in the United States of any person who helped prevent "terrorist" acts against the United States or in the capture of a wanted "terrorist." Mr. Lieberman, a Democrat, said he consulted with officials of President Bill Clinton's administration in drafting the legislation.

#### Saudis announce Haj month

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia declared the start of the Muslim Holy Month of Dhu'l-Hijja Saturday, giving the go-ahead for the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. The pilgrimage reaches its climax on May 30, the ninth day of the Muslim month when more than a million white-robed pilgrims will gather at Mount Arafat — the site where the Prophet Mohammad preached his last sermon 14 centuries ago. Pilgrims then collect stones to throw at three monuments repre senting Satan and the following day. May 31, Muslims celebrate the start of Eid Al Adha (feast of sacrifice), their most sacred feast.

#### Crocodile goes missing in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police are scouring Tel Aviv for a Nile crocodile after its owner reported him stolen, dangerous, and in need of plenty of tender loving care: "His hite tears off fiesh," owner Ami Dotan told the Associated Press, "but without proper care and feeding, he will die." Tel Aviv police spokesman Gadi Doron confirmed police were on the lookout for the 1.20-metre crocodile, since Mr. Dotan reported the theft Thursday night. Police were considering publishing the croc's photo in newspapers if it was not recovered by Sunday. The stolen crocodile was part of an exhibit for a tourism fair on Tel Aviv's beach front. Mr. Dotan, who runs a reserve which is home to 1,000 crocodiles in the Jordan Valley, said he discovered the theft when he noticed a tear in the exhibit fence. "It could have been anyone." Mr. Dotan said, "Thousands of people have asked me if they could huy one as a pet - of course they can't." Mr. Dotan issued a warning saying the crocodile was dangerous over Israel's radio network. "If whoever stole him lets him loose on the streets, there could be trouble," he said. "Larger versions prey on lions and tigers."

#### 'Kohi to fight against Arab boycott of Israel'

NEW YORK (R) - German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has told Jewish leaders that he will lead a drive to have the European Community (EC) states bar compliance with the Arah boycott of Israel, the World Jewish Congress (WJC) said Friday. Reporting on a private meting that Mr. Kohl recently had with WJC President Edgar Bronfman and German Jewish leader Ignatz Bubis in Bonn, a WJC spokesman said Germany this month instituted stringent regulations that bar German companies from complying with the boycott, "Kohl also said that he will seek similar regulations within the EC that bar compliance with the Arab boycott," the spokesman said. He added that the Clinton administration has told the WJC that the United States, at this summer's Group of Seven meeting of industrial powers in Japan will seek a statement barring compliance with the boycott. The German regulations which went into effect on May 1 bar German companies from issuing so-called boycott declarations, statements requested by Arab countries that companies are neither trading with Israel nor trading with companies that trade with Israel. The United States has had a similar law in effect for the last dozen years.

### 2 killed while planting bomb in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (AP) - Two guerrillas were killed Saturday when a bomh blew up as they tried to plant in Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon, security sources said. They said the pre-dawn explosion occurred on a road near the village of Debel in; the western sector of the "security zone." The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the guerrillas apparently had infiltrated into the zone during the night to plant the bomb. Their identities and affiliation were not immediately known.

#### U.S. forces treating Somalia veterans for malaria

WASHINGTON (AP) - About 40 U.S. army soldiers and Marines at bases across the country have come down with malaria since returning from duty in Somalia, officials said Friday. All are being treated with primaquine, a medicine designed to eradicate the parasite. In addition to the cases diagnosed after return to the United States, 46 U.S. service people were treated — all successfully — for cases of malaria while they were still in Somalia, according to the U.S. Army Health Services Command. More than 20 cases of malaria have been diagnosed at Fort Drum, New York. Army spokesman Major Rick Thomas said four soldiers based in North Carolina and Georgia also contracted the disease, which is a parasitic infection transmitted by the bite of a mosquito. Ten Marines, most based on the Pacific coast, have come down with malaria since returning from Somalia, according to Captain Perry Bishop, spokesman for the navy surgeon general. The army is considering, as a precaution, giving anti-malaria treatment to all soldiers who have left Somalia, with or without any symptoms, an official said. More than 30,000 American service-men and women participated in the Somalia humanitarian mission. Some remain as part of a United Nations peacekeeping force. All soldiers and Marines who served in Somalia were told ahead of time to take pills, and other preventative measures, to ward off malaria infection, officials said. Capt. Bishop said some apparently did not strictly follow the instructions.

#### JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROS	HAMME TWO
17:30	Les Clés de Fort Boyard
19:00	Les Clés de Fort Boyard
19:15	Le Journal de L'histoire
	News in Arabic
23:30	Executive Stress
21:10	The Good Guys
7.2:00	The Good Guys News in English
22:22	French Series

PRAYER TIMES

12:32   Dhuhr   15:13   Asr   19:35   Maghreb   15:16   15:1
, CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nozereth Church Swelfieh, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 537785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440. Terrasanch Charch Tel: 622366 ... Charch of the Annunciation Tel.: 623541.

Charch Tel. 636851, Tel.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. aim Church Tel. 771751. International Church Tel. Amman 652526. Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: \$2,4328.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-bay Saluta Tel. \$23824, 654932
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#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

It will be fair and some clouds will appear at various abitudes. There will be a chance for scattered showers of rain, especially in the southern and eastern parts of Jordan, and winds will be nothwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and dusty, with a chance for scattered showers, while winds will be northerly moderate and

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# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: 794788 694916 615648 Firas pharmacy ... Ferdows pharmacy 661912 778336 Al Asema pharmacy Nairoukh pharmacy Al Salam pharmacy 637055 623672 636730 644945 637660 Dr. Fayez Al Qadhi

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### HOSPITALS Shmeisani Hospital ... University Hospital ... Al-Muscher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37 664164/6 Al-Ahli, Abdali Italian, Al-Muhajreen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich Arruy, Marka Queen Alia Hospital Anal Hospital 777101/3 ZAROA: Zarga Govt. Hospital ..... Zarga National Hospital .... (09)963323 (09)900560 (09)986732 ... (09) 990990 Princess Basma Hospital ... (02)275555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 the Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100 NQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111 .
FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal: lordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.
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Oalon (green) 230 / 160 Orange 280 / 160 Pepper (hot) 450 / 330 Pepper (sweet) 200 / 150 Potato
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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Beirut, Rome (AZ)
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N BRIEF

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#### **HOME NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Princess Basma to inspect Mafraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Sunday will visit Mafraq governorate to inspect social development services to the villages of Um Niam, Buweidaa, Hawamdeh, Manshieh and Sirhan. She will be accompanied by Minister of Social Development Amin Awad Mashaqbeh.

#### Prince Abdullah visits PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdultah Bin Al Hussein Saturday called at the Public Security Department (PSD) and met with Major General Abdul Rahman Al Udwan, the department director, in his office. The Prince also met with seoior police officers and the PSD inspector general.

#### Arab Geographers thank Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) - Saturday participants in the Arab meetiog on Geographic Information and Remote Sensing which concluded in Amman last week sent a cable to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, thanking him for his patronage of their meeting and his directives. They also voiced their pride in Jordan's leadership and people and thanked them for the hospitality they were accorded during their stay in Amman.

#### Abu Jaber meets with PLO's Abed Rabbo

AMMAN (Petra) - Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber Saturday met with member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee Yasser Abed Rabbo who conveyed to him a message addressed to His Majesty King Hussein from Palestine leader Yasser Arafat. The message deals with the developments in the Middle East peace process. Dr. Abu Jaber and Mr. Abed Rabbo exchanged views on the outcome of the ninth round of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations and preparations for the next rounds. The meeting was attended by the Palestinian Ambassador

#### Minister says Saudi government providing all pilgrims' needs

JEDDAH (Petra) - Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, who is at present in Saudi Arabia at the head of the Jordanian pilgrimage delegation, Saturday met with his Saudi counterpart, Sheikh Abdul Wahab Abdul Wase'. The two ministers discussed issues related to the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina, as well as facilities and services extended by the Saudi government to the pilgrims. Sheikh Tamimi said following the meeting that all official delegations leading pilgrims in Saudi Arabia received from the Saudi government all their nceds and demands.

#### Valley office begins 8-day health education

NORTH SHUNEH, The Jordan Valley (Petra) - The northern Jordan Valley district Social Development Department Saturday embarked on a health and social education programme in various parts of the district. The Director of the department said the programme, which is being implemented in cooperation with the Mother and Child Care Centres in the region, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and charity societies, will deal with issues ranging from social integration to begging. He added that the eight-day programme will also include lectures which will shed light on the role of charitable societies, their purposes and goals in the society, the objectives of the National Aid Fund (NAF), disabilities, child care, nutrition and birth control.

#### Amman education office honours King

AMMAN (Petra) - The Greater Amman First Education Department Saturday organised a celebration marking the 40th anniversary of his Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers and Independence Day, which falls on May 25. The celebration included dances and songs, poetry recitals and theatrical shows. In observance of the two occasions, the Kufranja Sports Club in Ajloun district also organised a celebration which included speeches, national songs and dances and sports events.

#### Zarga honours King with exhibits

ZARQA (Petra) - An exhibition of books and handicrafts was opened Saturday at the Al Hashimiyah Vocational Training Centre in Za. qa. The exhibition, held in observance of the 40th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of constitutional powers, includes cultural, religious, scientific, economic and political books, in addition to Photos of King Hussein's meetings with heads of state and visits to Jordanian cities and army units. The exhibition also includes works by students at the centre. Another exhibition of plastic arts was opened Saturday in Mus'ab Basic School in Ramtha city.

#### Birth control group advises residents of Sahab

SAHAB (Petra) — A mobile clinic operated by the Jordanian Birth Control Society Saturday organised a free medical advice

day in Sahab. Lecturing doctors spoke to the local residents about the importance of birth spacing and child diseases. Egyptian petrochemical team tours industries

AMMAN (Petra) - A team of workers representing the petrochemical industries in Egypt Saturday toured several industries and met with uniun leaders. The team, whose members will later hold talks with Jordanian workers union leaders, were also accompanied on tours of archaeological sites.

#### Engineers to attend water workshop in Libya

AMMAN (Petra) - The Jordan Engineers Association (JEA) will participate in a workshop on water sources in the Arab World scheduled to start in Tripoli, Lihya Monday. The JEA will be represented at the three-day workship by engineers Mohammad Abu Taha and Ali Al Khalil. The workship, according to Mr. Ahu Taha, will discuss water projects in the Arah World, dams, water pumping projects and the preparation of an atlas on water in the Arah World. He said the Inroanian delegation will suhmit to the workshop two working papers on water sources and uses, and the water recycling projects in Jordan.

#### Jordan to attend ILO conference in Geneva

AMMAN (Petra) - The General Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions will take part in the meetings of the 80th International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference which will upon in Geneva June 1. The conference, expected to last fur three weeks, will discuss union freedums, workforce movements and international conventions on labour-related issues.

### Arab-German trade group chief outlines ways to boost commerce

AMMAN (Petra) — Luthar Spaeth, head of the Arab-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Saturday met with officials from the Jordanian public and private sectors and called for further bolstering of Jordanian-German trade and in-

dustrial cooperation. Speaking at a meeting with Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour, Mr. Spaeth said the two countries can boost their trade balance through joint investments in small and medium size industrial projects and an increase in reciprocal flow of national products.

He also said that Jordan and Germany can promote coopera-tion in the transfer of technology and in economic fields.

Regarding the Middle East, Mr. Spaeth said Germany sup-ports efforts for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of U.N. Security Council

Mr. Spaeth, who arrived here Friday on a three-day visit to Jordan, reviewed with Dr. Ensour bilateral trade and prospects for boosting industrial trade and scientific and cultural coopera-

Dr. Ensour outlined the Kingdom's incentives to encourage foreign investors and urged Germany to import more Jordanian national products to help adjust the balance of trade which, be said, is heavily in favour of Ger-

The minister said that this can be done through raising Bonn's imports of Jordanian phosphate

and potash. Referring to developments in the past years, Dr. Ensour said the standard of living in Jordan took a turn downwards as a result of the wars and the sudden waves

of expatriates and migrants arriving in the Kingdom.

But he voiced Jordan's gratitude to Germany for helping to support the Kingdom's national economy over the past decades.

1960 upgraded in 1974, Germany and Jordan concurred on economic cooperation and the protection of investors' capitals in either The Ministry of Industry and Trade said Jordan last year imported JD 153,518,500 worth of German products and sold Ger-

Under agreements signed in

Jordanian products. Discussions of Jordanian-German trade and economic cooperation also took place at a meeting between Mr. Spaeth and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker in the presence of Dr. Ensour and Khaldoun Abu Hassan, the president of the Amman

many JD 1,005,400 worth of

Chamber of Industry. The two sides reviewed ways to promote industrial and trade cooperation and areas where Jor-

economic system.

Urging the private and public said Jordan was eligible to play a

Arab-German Industrial and Commercial Chamber of Industry pean, markets.

ber of Industry to dispatch a team to Germany soon, to follow up on the present discussions and to examine German and European markets.

gathered with Jordanian businessmen for the first workshop during which they conducted a general review of local dan can benefit from German and German markets, prospects expertise in light and heavy in- for exporting Jordanian products

dustries, as well as in communications and health fields.

Mr. Abu Hassan met earlier with the German official who praised German-Jordanian economic relations over the past three decades.

Dr. Spaeth stressed that he intended to gather more informa-tion oo Jordanian industry and the Kingdom's investments and

sectors in Jordan to promote German-Jordanian cooperation in economic fields, Dr. Spaeth prominent economie role in the region because of its proximity to Europe and its central geographical location. Mr. Spaeth pledged that the

will play a major role in providing Jordanian exporters with information and data about Euro-He urged the Amman Cham-

Following the initial talks, Mr. Spaeth and his delegation

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Saturday receives at the Royal Court Luthar Spaeth, head of the Arab-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce to review German-Jordanian cooperation and current efforts for further increasing German investments in Jordan and the transfer of German technology to the Kingdom. Mr. Spaeth paid tribute to King Hussein's efforts to enhance democracy in Jordan

to Europe, questions related to standards and specifications and other economic and trade-related and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour. President of the Amman Chamber of Industry Khaldoun Abu Hassan and President of the Amman Chamber of Commerce Muhammad Asfour were present at the audience (Petra

and said he was impressed with the Kingdom's

accomplishments in economic fields. Industry

Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz joint ventures with Jordanian and discussed economic relatirins. businessmen in the Kingdom and They reviewed ways to encour- Jordan's exports to Germany.

Mr. Spaeth met later with age German companies to set up



Hassan Saturday opens an exhibition of paintings by plastic artist Rafiq Al Lahham at the until the end of the month, was attended by tion (Petra photo)

HER ROYAL Highness Princess Sarvath Al Minister of Culture Mahmoud Al Samra. Mr. Lahham, who is one of the founders of the Jordanian Plastic Artists Association and the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition, enti-tled "The 40th Exhibit;" includes 80 paintings depicting human suffering, nature and Islamic Award and the 1992 Plastic Artists Award. He manuscripts and ornamentations. The opening was presented in 1981 with the Golden Shield ceremony of the exhibition, which will last and Medal of the Arab Plastic Artists Federa-



A husy day at one of Jordan's health clinics (File photo)

### UNICEF praises Jordan's efforts in child care, health protection

(the United Nations Chil- Jordanian children under five dren's Fund) Saturday praised years of age. Jordan's efforts in child care and child health protection noting that the Kingdom was among the first few countries to endorse the 1991' United Nations Convention on

Child's Rights.
UNICEF senior official Nihad Kanawati told a seminar on child care, organised by the agency at the Amman Marriott Hotel, that through its diligent efforts over the last two decades, Jordan has been able to sharply reduce its infant mortality rates.

The seminar was called to examine the results of a recent survey conducted by UNICEF in cooperation with the Ministry of Health to determine the

The survey was conducted on a random sample of 800 children from Jordan's various governorates, according to UNICEF sources. Jordan has been able to

make major achievements in health areas despite difficult political and economic circumstances facing the country since 1989 and the sudden increase in its population from the forced return of more than 300,000 Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates from the Gulf placing additional burdens on the health services, said Ms. Kanawati, UNICEF's senior programme

According to Mamoon

AMMAN (J.T.) - UNICEF level of nutrition among Maubreh of the Health Ministry, the survey was conducted in order to compare nutritional levels among children with international standards and also to determine the social and economic effects un the general health and nutrition of Jordanian children.

> The health ministry announced recently that infant mortality rates dropped in Jordan from 67 per 1,000 live births to 37 per 1,1XXI.

Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh addressed the session, noting that malnutrition was plagoing 20 per cent of the world's population, mainly women and children.

### Jordan, Morocco to reduce duty on specific items traded

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian-Moroccan joint economic committee, which last week ended a meeting in Rabat, agreed on partial and full exemptions of customs duty on defined lists of commodities produced and exchanged between both coun-

The Jordanians and Moroccans will now exchange lists of products they wish to have exempted from duty according to the agreement, said Marwan Awad, secretary general of the Ministry rif Industry and Trade.

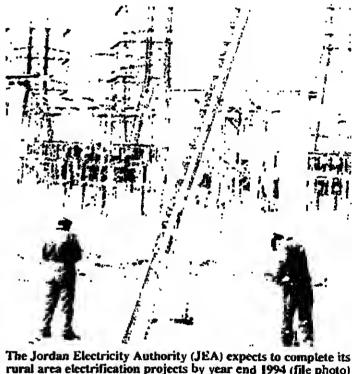
The two sides also agreed to a nuntber of steps to be taken mutually, to facilitate participation of businesses in trade fairs held in Morocco and Jordan and the formation of a follow up committee to pursue the implementation of agreements, said Mr. Awad.

He said the committee also decided to study proposals prepared by a task force that met in Amman in December last year, pertaining to promoting means of transporting of goods.

In industry, the two sides agreed that Jordan would benefit from Moroccan handicraft industries and Morocco will provide Jordan with experts to organise training programmes in handicraft Also, the two sides agreed

on promoting enoperation in tourism-related fields, in implementation of a 1978 tourism protocol. The joint committee de-

cided to hold another meeting in July in Amman, according tıı Mr. Awad.



rural area electrification projects by year end 1994 (file photo)

### 6 firms win tenders for rural power projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan installation of 8,000 poles to carry Electricity Authority (JEA) cables extending 45tt kilometres. Saturday announced that six tenders worth JD 2 millinn have been awarded to local firms to set networks of medium voltage electric power that will benefit 218 villages and settlements with a total population of about 75,000

JEA director General Mohammad Arafeh said the project is part of a general electrification scheme, covering 450 villages and settlements in the rural area as originally announced by the government last year.

Next month the JEA will low voltage networks and for the end of 1994,

The electrification project in the rural area, according to Mr. Arafeh, will cost JD 25 million. Funding for the project is being supplemented by the additional one fils per kilo watt charge levied on consumers since last year.

Mr. Arafeh said at least 500 engineers, technicians and workers will be needed to carry out

He added that the end of 1993 will see the electrification of at least DRt villages and settlement's and complete electrification of announce other tenders for laying the country is expected by the

Scandal

### Yemeni envoy says Jordan's democratisation is a model to be followed in Arab World

ÁMMAN (Petra) — Yemeni Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abu Lahhoum Saturday described the democratisation process in Jordan as a model that should be followed in the Arah World expressing his hope that the Arah states will take more steps in the direction of democracy on the basis of political freedom, pluralism, respect for human rights and public participation in decision-

making In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on the occasion of the third anniversary of and bolstering pan-Arab coop-the unification of Yemen, Mr. eration and underlined that soli-

Abu Lahhoum praised His Majesty King Hussein's and the Jordanian people's support for Yemen in its democratisation process and its building of a modem state.

He stressed the closeness of Jordanian-Yemeni relations in all fields, saying they reflect the desire of the two peoples to enhance bilateral cooperation between them within a democratic

framework. The Yemeni envoy called for developing inter-Arab relations darity among Arab countries was the only means to rid the Arab Nation of its deteriorating status

Democracy in Yemen, as it is in Jordan, is an affirmation of the public participation in the decision-making process and is considered a cultural achievement for the Arab World, Mr. Abu Lahhoum said.

He added that democracy can be taken as the first step in overcoming difficulties facing the nation and challenges obstructing its renaissance.

The ambassadnr outlined the duties of the current Yemeni parliament and said Yemen is at present seeking to create a con-sultative council to form, with the elected house of parliament, a national assembly which will elect the Yemeni president in the future, in accordance with a democratic constitution. Under this doctrine, the Yemeni president will be allowed to serve up to two five-year terms.

New amendments to the constitution will be introduced to serve that purpose, he said.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

- Art exhibition entitled "Fragments: Weavings and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Hluch and Margaret M. Hluch at the American Centre.
- Art exhibition by Patrice Pain at the French Cultural Centre. \* Armenian miniature exhibition adapted by Clara Metzhagopian at the British Council.
- ★ Exhibition of sculptures by Artist Abdul Hayy Musallam at Baladna Art Gallery.

☆ 1975 feature entitled "Dog Day Afternoon" at 6 p.m. at the American Centre (130 minutest.

IN GRATITUDE -

With all their love and thanks Friuad and Abla Sayegh MISS RULA C. NABEEL & MISS RACHEL THOMAS their heartiest gratitude for the grand piano recital they gave last Wednesday the 19th of May on the

#### fourth memorial of LOUAI SAYEGH

The grand performance and the noble music surpassed the bounds of time, and quickened the moment with the mystical essence of the eternal world of beauty where all, who believe, will dwell with their beloved into eternity.

Fouad and Ahla, as well, extend their deepest lappreciation to all who shared with them the occasion, and endowed the evening with a smile to remember inspite of the continuum of sorrow and

عداس تابعز بيمية عربية سيلسية مستقلة نصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة السحفية الأردنية

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### Now Israeli referendums override international laws?

THE ISRAELI people could very well be divided over the issue of withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. The radicals among them would contend that the West Bank and Gaza are parts of "greater Israel" and the Palestinians living there are aliens who ultimately should be evicted and expelled. The moderates would not mind pulling out of the occupied territories, or most of them, and would like to see the Palestinians gain their national rights. That, bowever, does not give the Israelis the licence to decide the future of the occupied territories either in a referendum or otherwise. International law that overrides all other national laws or national will has resolved that Israel should withdraw from the occupied territories.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, might hope that by holding a referendum the Israelis might say yes to withdrawal. That might be the result and it might not. But the fact remains that such a referendum is illegal from an international point of view. There is no pretext other than Israel's claim that the occupied Palestinian lands were "disputed lands." And even and when that is the case, it is not the Israelis - the occupiers - who should be polled whether or not they should withdraw, but the Palestinians, the owners of the land and its inhabitants for hundreds of years. Of course it is more than obvious that the Palestinians want the Israeli occupation to end and it has cost them dearly in blood to get their message through to the Israelis and the entire world. It is therefore highly immoral of Rabin to intend to poil the Israelis on the issue.

Mr. Rabin does not need a mandate to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza, the mandate is embodied in U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 and all the other pertinent resolutions including 181, which originally partitioned Palestine between Palestinians and Jews. It is therefore incumbent on Palestinians, Arabs and the U.N. to oppose such an Israeli move.

What Mr. Rabin should be doing, for which he got a mandate from the Israeli people, is pressing ahead for peace and for complete withdrawal. This last chance for peace need not be wasted for the sake of internal Israeli politics. The interests of the Israeli people and the peoples of the whole region do not depend on who is in power in Israel. Nor does it depend on the narrow interests of the Israelis themselves. The choice of peace should not be left for radicals, either on this or that side. What is needed are bold policies and bold decisions. The march for peace has already been started. It should not be derailed for whatever reason.

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

EVERY TIME the Palestinians and the other Arabs try to increase efforts to reach peace, Israel steps up its repression in the occupied Arab lands and hardens its position at the negotiating table, said Al Dustour daily Saturday. To be noticed also, is the fact that Israel's malpractices trend to intensify during the peace sessions, something which was particularly apparent during the ninth round of talks, to whose failure contributing, the paper noted. It seems that Israel still lacks understanding of the fact that violence and oppression can only breed violence, frustration and desperation, said the paper. The Israelis have already tried their futile malpractices in a bid to stifle the intifada, but these practices have all ended in failure, said the daily. Nothing short of respect for the Palestinian people's human rights and the right to self-determination can satisfy the Palestinians or end the intifada, added the paper. Israel's present policies, which are backed by its allies, do not help end the violence in the region, and Israel's intransigence at the negotiating table can by no means bring Israel closer to the Arab states, stressed the paper. It said that the Palestinian people would not stop the intifada as a price to be paid for peace which does not take into account an exchange for land for the full implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Palestine

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily commented on a statement by the head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, Dr. Haidar Abdul Shafi, noting that the man has justly demanded a suspension of the Arab-Israeli talks as they are heading nowhere. Being a Gazan, besieged like his fellow Gazans by the Israeli troops and living a miserable life due to the continued repression and occupation, Dr. Abdul Shafi's demands are justified as they reflect his deep frustration, said Taher Al Udwan. The writer said that while the Arabs will continue discussions on whether to participate in the next session, once the Eid Al Adha is over, the U.S. would be exercising new pressures on the Arab governments to return to the negotiating table with Israel and making new empty promises to them. It would be most reasonable for the PLO to respond favourably to Dr. Abdul Shafi's demands simply because the nine sessions have all proved futile, the writer said. It has to be mentioned that by its previous consent to participate in the talks, the PLO had exposed itself to severe criticism by its friends and opponents alike, said the writer. He said that should the PLO go to the 10th session, it would no doubt risk losing Palestinian people's support, as long as the head of the delegation is demanding a suspension of the negotiations, the writer said, such a call is worth considering by the PLO leadership because Dr. Abdul Shafi is in a position to know if the talks were achieving progress or not, the writer pointed out. He said that since the ninth session was a fiasco, thanks to the U.S. empty and false promises, there is no reason for any Arab party to involve itself in further discussions with Israel.

### When peace is water under the bridge

By Robert Fisk

THE LITANI River, southern Lebanon - four Lebaoese soldiers guard the bridge over the Litani. Beneath its coocrete supports and below the wreckage of the iron railway bridge the Israelis destroyed in 1976, there froths one of the great rivers of antiquity, mentioned in the books of the Egyptian 19th Dynasty. known to the ancients as the Leontes, muddy and dark, wasting itself in the Mediterranean. Waste being the operative word.

In spring the Litani is a torrent, pouring through the valley below Beaufort Castle, sloshing through the front lines of Israeli occupation troops and Lebanese soldiers, racing through the orchards north of Tyre before exhausting itself in the sea. No wonder the Israelis watch this river with so much desire; no wonder the Lebanese army guards it so jealously. In any Middle East peace treaty, the name Litani will be almost as important as the signatures.

Already its flow and precipitation is being calculated by the nations that may benefit from its waters in the aftermath of peace. Lebanon produces 10 billion cubic metres of water a year, enough to satisfy threefold the total annual water deficiency of Syria, Jordan and Israel. Lebanese water, in the opinion of one of the country's economists, Marwan Iskandar, represents the single most important potential for technical cooperation between Arabs and Israelis if - if - their 45-year conflict comes to

a formal end. It is easy to identify the economic consequences of peace. Syria could sell oil and gas to Israel at world market prices, Israel could sell its agricultural technology to Syria, while a future Palestinian state - if that is what is to be born - may develop a fishing industry in Gaza linked to a new agricultural and industrial base in the West Bank, not to mention (as Israelis already know) a cheap labour market. The World Bank, Harvard University and the Mas-sachusetts Institute of Technology are already working on plans for the cooperation of Israel with the three remaining frontline Arab states and a Palestinian

The optimism that drifts across from the peace talks in Washington — from the Israelis. Jordanians and Syrians rather than the Palestinians — may be illusory. Whatever concessions the Israelis appear to make in Washington, their army's repression in Gaza — and their previous covert assistance to the fundamentalists in an attempt to counter Yasser Arafat's influence is fuelling a civil war between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Islamic resistance movement Hamas, a conflict that might provide a convincing excuse for refusing to leave the West Bank.

When Israel retreated from the Chouf mountains and then Sidon, its arming of both Christiao and Druze militias produced just such a civil war in Lebanon. And witbout a Palestinian settlement, there will be no peace in the Middle East, no matter bow many signatures are scribbled across a treaty.

Nevertheless, it may be time for all sides to look at the economic opportunities and disappointments peace would bring. For Israel, an end of the Arab boycott - which Israel claims has cost it more than \$40bn. For Palestinians, an end to oppression and the start of international Palestinian trade.

For Israel and Syria, a massive reduction in the military - 20 per cent of Israel's population is currently in the armed forces; 10 per cent of Syria's. The massive foreign debts of Israel (\$34bn), Syria (\$20bn) and Jordan (\$10bn) are largely defence costs. The United States will probably exercise its usual generosity by wiping out Israel's debt, and Syria may get away with repaying only half its bills to the former Soviet Union

and Eastern Europe.

Israel could sell fruit and flowers to its Arab neighbours. Yet the endre agricultural balance of the region could be changed if Lebanese water were husbanded.
According to Mr. Iskandar,
Lebanon could — with new dams
and electricity generating stations
and billions of dollars of investment - irrigate large areas of Syria, Israel and Jordan and provide itself, Syria and Israel with electrical power.

With a blindness typical of U.S. policy towards the reginn in the mid-Eighties, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington think-tank, examined the Middle East's water resources the failed to include Lebanon, on the grounds that it had enough water and was any-way "politically unsettled". Needless to say, the study in-cluded Iraq, althnugh Saddam Hussein was then waging war

against Iran. Syria's new tonrist agreements with Lebanon — bus tours already take visitors from Beirut to the Roman ruins of Palmyra in Syria — could be extended to Jordan and on to the new Palestine and Israel. But Israel may find itself disappointed by the fruits of peace. It is unlikely to reap much benefit from the oil and gas industries when Western conglomerates control so much of the Gulf's resources.

"Lebanon produces 10 billion cubic metres of water a year, enough to satisfy threefold the total annual water deficiency of Syria, Jordan and Israel."

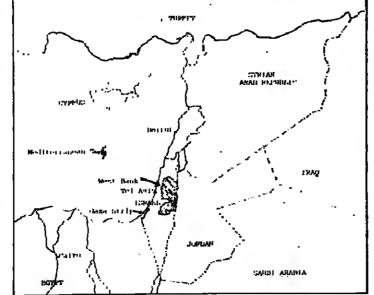
Israeli banks could have difficulty competing with the big io-ternational Arab-Jewish bankers (who already demonstrate how well the two peoples can work together in finance). Textiles in Syria are chosper than in Israel. Lebañese wine is incomparably better than Israeli wine. As Mr. Iskandar points out, Israel produces the best surgical instruments and its competence in cut diamonds is undeniable. But who will want to buy its sophisticated

weaponry? There are suspicions, too, among the Arabs that the dimensions of "peace". could be greater that any of them realise. A Syrian journalist, cynical enough to require anonymity, believes that post-peace development programmes would be regional rather than Arab-Israeli. "You're going to find the Americans will want to bring in Turkey, their new policeman to the north. They want Turkey to control Iraq. Turkey controls the Tigris and Euphrates, which run into Syria and Iraq. Then Iraq will want to be involved, politically if not economically. What will this mean?"

And who will want to invest in the Middle East if the gale force winds of the Islamic revival make the signatures on any peace treaty irrelevant? Lebanon, with its large Christian community and cosmopolitanism, may have ridden the Islamic storm successfully. Syria resolved it "satisfactori-, in the words of the Syrian journalist, in the bloody 1982 repression of the Hamas rebels who wanted to turn Syria into an Islamic republic.

But is Jordan safe? Is "Palestine"? And what about Egypt, whose earlier peace treaty yielded so few dividends? Will the Arabs who sign up for peace bave to deal as ruthlessly with

their Islamicists as Syria did? Which raises the dark suspicion that if the Arab regimes at peace with Israel were Islamicised", there might be the makings of a future Arab-Israeb alliance. Who against but Iran? Is that what the "peace" talks in Washingtong are leading to?
The Independent.



Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

# Imposition of sales tax is inevitable

After the successful encounter on Jordan Televisioo with Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh, aired last Tuesday evening, the outspoken opponents of the sales tax, who filled the atmosphere with their noise in the oame of the poor, the limited-income groups, the local industries and the consumers, found themselves in a real embarrassing situation similar to a political and intellectual scandal.

Mr. Jardaneh is known to be extremely truthful. Even bis policy opponents never doubted bis credibility. What he said in the interview was very simple and straight forward. Following are

- The sales tax is not a new or additional tax, it is merely an improved and reformed version of the consumption tax which is

currently in force. - Replacing the current consumption tax by the sales tax will not cause any net increase in the tax burden payable by the people, if anything, the end result is a net reduction.

- The application of the sales tax and the abolishing of the consumption tax will not result in any increase in the cost of living index or, for that matter, cause a net rise in the level of prices in - The sales tax will expand the base of the tax to include some

26 new commodities, most of which are nonessential or luxurious. Only seven of them are manufactured locally. Examples: Artificial flowers and window umbrellas. - The bulk of the commodities traded in the market will not be influenced by the application of the sales tax, because the sales tax which will be charged to them is exactly the same as the consumption tax, no more, no less. The prices of some of the

remaining commodities. (luxury goods) will rise slightly while the prices of others, (basic goods) will decline. The number of commodities that will become cheaper is more than that of commodities which will become more expensive. The overall end result is in favour of the consumers, especially the poor and the limited-income

- A number of commodities which are now subject to tax will be exempted as soon as the sales tax law becomes operative. The

prices of such commodities will decline. They are all basic goods, essential to the poor and how-income groups. They are mostly related to food, medicine, baby supplies and students amenities. - There will be no change as far as imports are concerned. Both the present consumption tax and the sales tax which will replace it have the same rates and are applicable to the same base, i.e., the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value, thus the price of imported goods will not be altered.

- What is new for the national industry are the lacibities and advantages produced by the draft law of the sales tax to replace the stringent and complicated procedures and heavy fines under

the current consumption tax. - The passage of sales tax law is urgent and could not be deferred because it is an integral part of the economic adjustment programme, without which we will have to take alternative fixed easures, much harsher than the sales tax. We may find ourselves without a programme if the IMF decided that Jurdan defaulted and did not abide by the programme. Such an eventuality will bring us back to square one as far as the crisis of foreign indebtedness and shortage of foreign exchange is concerned. We shall also lose the soft loans and outright grants, which are badly needed, at least in the coming five years and which are now flowing to the treasury from the industrialised countries and the international insolutions such as the World Bank and the IMF

Of course, the minister should have addressed the public earlier, to convince the people und have them on his side, instead of leaving the public opinion to be misled by uninformed demagogic politicians and columnists who were able to mobilise public opinion against the sales tax hased on false information

After the convincing facts regarding the sales tax, all political parties, unions, and writers which raised their loud voices against the sales tax are required to apologise for the noise and distortion they have created. The government should also go ahead and issue the sales tax law and protect the country's economic achievements, including fiscal and monetary stability, high investment rate and unprecedented economic growth.

## **Bosnian Serb** army chief didn't want to be soldier

By Paul Holmes

PALE, Bosnia - General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb army chief Washington has named as a potential war criminal, reaches across the table and offers

cigarettes. "Come oo," he says. "Let's smoke the pipe of peace".

It is night and Gen. Mladic, a

stocky, pugnacious 50-year-old career officer western diplomats" call the Bosnian Napoleon and a ruthless fanatic, is relaxed and

He had just signed a ceasefire oian Croat militia to complement a truce he has struck with the commander of Muslim-led government forces his army have all but defeated in 13 months of civil

Muslims and Croats, former allies against the Serbs, are fighting each other in the city of Mostar, digging what Gen. Mladic calls a "mass grave" for themselves in the Neretva River valley.

Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovioa have just finished voting io a referendum certain to reject a U.N.-backed peace plan which Geo. Mladic regards as part of a plot led by Germany and the Vatican to divide the Orthodox Christian world.

"I'm fed up with fighting," Gen. Mladic said. "Right now I could push them (Muslims and Croats) into the sea bot I don't want to do that. I want this resolved by political means."

Gen. Mladic leads an army in

control of 70 per cent of Bosnian territory on which Bosnian Serb political leaders are defiantly trying to carve out a republic of their own. Apparently untroubled by the

prospect of possible western air strikes or action on the ground by foreign troops whom Gen. Mla-dic says will "leave their bones" in Bosnia, the general says the world can do nothing about it. On Monday, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic apologised for "irresponsible and emotional" threats at the weekend by

western cities if the West intervened in Bosnia. Born in World War II in Kalinovik in eastern Herzegovina, Gen. Mladic has been one of the paramount military figures in almost two years of ethnic fighting io the shattered Balkan fed-

the outspoken Mladic to bomb

In the 1991 war of secession in Croatia, be headed the Yugoslav army corps in Knin, seat of the rebel republic Serbs bave declared in the one third of Croatia they bave seized.

Last May, be was named head of the Yugoslav army io Sarajevo. Days later the Yugoslav army pulled out of Bosnia and Gen. Mladic took over command of the Bosnian Serb army.

"I didn't want to be a soldier do I like weapons," Gen. Mladic said in a two-hour interview that ranged over the Yugoslav conflict, his lonely childhood and his views on religion, communism and mother Serbia.

"I wanted to be a surgeon and it's a pity I didn't study medicine ... I thought I'd spend my life io peace," he said.

At this point he stood up and



Ratko Mladic

unzipped a camouflage coat and the jerkio beneath. "Look, I'm not armed now," he said. His words are stunning in the

context of Bosnia, where Gen. Mladic's artillery has brought death and destruction to the besieged Bosnian capital Sarajevo and suffering to the Muslim enclaves of Zepa and Srebrenica.

"I regret that any civilians have been killed and suffered on our side or their side," Gen. Mladic said when asked about the Serb onslaught. The blame, he said, lay with Muslims.

Would you tolerate it if I attacked your family? If I went to your home with a Kalashnikov, would you just sit back and do nothing if I killed your family?" he asked.

He is untroubled by the talk of a possible trial before a U.N. war crimes tribunal.

"I don't have anything to be ashamed of, not in my life and not in this war," he said. "I defend my people. To defend one's people is the highest honour and duty.

Ratko Mladic grew up alone. His father, a fighter with Tito's World War II partisans, was killed fighting Nazi German occu-piers in 1945 when Mladic was two. He left home and a sister and his mother, to whom he is devoted, at an early age for boarding school in Belgrade.

Despite his ability to breathe fire against those he sees as his enemies, Gen. Mladic can be charming and witty. He blames the media and their "monstrous lies" for the world's sympathy for the Muslims and his image as butcher of Bosnia.

He says he does not hate Muslims and Croats and has tittle time for religion despite regarding Bosnia's war as a step on the West's way to diminishing orthodox Russia "as much as possible as I did to Srebrenica and

Though he says he respects Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, co-authors of the peace plan, he is dismissive of attempts by foreign politicians to pacify the Bal-

The first time he attended peace talks in Geneva, he said, he regarded Mr. Vance and Lord Owen as Gods. The next time he realised half the officials there 'don't even know where Bosnia

"The third time I went I knew I was master," he said, referring to bis knowledge of the military situation oo the ground in

### **LETTERS**

### Brevity reads better

To the Editor:

I do not subscribe to Mr. K. A. Hluch's point of view, expressed in his letter to the editor (Cardinal points, Jordan Times, May 20-21, 1993.) regarding Rami Khouri's column of May 11; and though I do not intend to discuss or analyse any of the two gentlemen's ideas, I openly and shamelessly declare that I usually share Mr. Khouri's opinioo on the said subject, in its briad lines

I had started reading Mr. Hluch's letter with interest; that is up to the last two paragraphs. What began as reasonable and acceptable enticism, presented with plausible arguments for the reader to accept or reject, ended in a cheap form of mockery with personal, offensive insinuations against Mr. Khouri.

True, democracy means Mr. Hluch is free to write in any form or style he chooses. I just want to tell him that the way he ended his letter made the whole of it much less believable. I just wish he did without the last two paragraphs.

> Jean-Claude Elias. Amman.

### Tolerance on equal grounds

To the Editor:

Aboard a Royal Jordanian flight, in mid-air, I read with interest the article written by Zuleikha Ahu Risheh about religion and nationalism (Religion and nationalism could forge a healthy nation, Jordan Times, May 15, 1993). Until I read the article, 1 did not know that religion, especially Islam, could be divided into "pure" and "political," and that the "pure" nne which the writer believes to be the correct type, is the one which is practised by her mother and which caters for the needs of the spirit and the relationship between man and his creator.

Such a description of religion is nut only secular but is also untrue for most religions, especially Islam. A glance through the Koran or, for this purpose the Bible, clearly reveals that these book of documented revelations do not only cater for man's relationship with God but also with his fellow human beings.
It is man who, for reasons of belief, disbelief or special

interests, decides to take some ar all of the teachings of religion. The secular movement in the West was in fact responsible for the reinterpretation of religion in favour of excluding it from any say in the running of penples' mundane affairs. It is also true that secularists in many parts of the Muslim World have attempted to do to Islam what their counterparts did to Christianity in the

If a certain segment of the community adopts a secular interpretation of religion and struggles, using peaceful and democratic means, to uphold, enforce or spread such an interpretation and resorts to political power to ensure the accomplishment of its objective, why should opponents of this interpretation, who believe in the comprehensive and total adoption and implementation of religious teachings, he deprived of the right to do the same, and have political aspirations - just like the secularists - in order to ensure a full and proper implementation of the principles they believe in and defend? Is there any fairness or justice in ascribing legitimacy to certain political ideologies while denying the same to others? Ms. Ahu Risheh is perfectly entitled to her opinion, but she

certainly has no right to demand that her opponents he denied like right to be politically involved or active.

Although I am a strong believer that Islam, unlike many other religions, caters for spiritual and mundane requirements of man.

and that it was revealed for the purpose of praviding man with guidelines in all aspects of life, this is not the place or time to try and convince Ms. Ahu Risheh that Islam is not what she believes

My main concern here is to invite Ms. Abn Risheh, secularists, liberals, Islamists and all groups of various ideological commitments and political prugrammes to agree on a basic common denominator, namely democracy.

In a democracy, people exercise their right to disagree and argue among themselves, but without any individual or group having the right alone to exclude others or prevent them from appealing to the people, who issue the final verdict,

We must all recognise the fact that a spectrum of opinions and degrees of varying intensity (from radicalism to moderation) exist in every human group or party or congregation. This applies to the Islamists just us it applies to secularists, liberals and others-This phenomenan of variation is by no means characteristic to Arab or Muslim communities, it exists throughout human

communities in the world, past and present, and will always manifest itself in the future. The only means to deal with differences is to genuinely upt for democratisation, a process that is conditionally accompanied by tolerance and toleration.

> Azzam Tamimi, Centre for the Study of Democracy, University of Westminister,

# Fahed Al Fate

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Section 1

CAIRO. Egypt — Although the recent bomb explosions in Cairo's chaotic Tahrir Square could hardly be heard above the drone of traffie, the roar of bus engines and screams of car horns, the attackers could hardly have chosen a target which contains in one place more symbols of the establishment they seek to under-

At one end of Tahrir Square stands the largest and most despised department of the Egyptian bureaucracy, the Mugamma'a, where those Egyptian citizens who do not have access to some powerful pattern must some powerful patron must queue for hours and often bribe officials if they are to obtain indispensable documents, certificates and identity papers.

Next to the Mugamma'a is the American University regarded by the Islamic groups as a symbol of the cultural corruption or wester-nisation of the privileged layer of Egyptian society. On the other side of Tahrir Square the Egyp-tian Museum is not only one of the chief attractions for a tourist industry, which the Islamic est industry which the Islamic extremists have vowed to destroy, but also houses the treasures of a pre-Islamic Egyptian history which they feel should be ignored.

Beside the museum is the Nile Hilton, of which the bars, casino and discotheque are anathema to the extremists. The hotel is flanked on one side by the headquarters of the ruling National Party which has won every election since it was established and has consistently blocked attempts in the Egyptian parliament to secure a legal political role for the Isla-mic opposition. On the other side of the Nile Hilton is the Arab League which now coordinates cooperation between a number of Arab governments in what is a concerted campaign against poli-tical Islam throughout the Arab

The recent bomb attacks and other terrorist actions such as the shooting of policemen are pointing to an escalation of the conflict between the government and militant Islamic groops. Psycho-logically, the bombs in Tahrir Square have brought home to middle class Egyptians the fact that militant Islam is no longer a

phenomenon confined to the poor cities of southern Egypt or the overcrowded slums of Cairo

and Alexandria. And the increasing violence has given the lie to the assurances of the Ministry of the Interior that the security situation is under control.

Inside the heavily guarded In-

terior Ministry, General Baha Al Din Ibrahim, director of the Pubbe Relations Department, tries to minimise the problem. This problem has been going on for a long time, for nearly half a century. It used to happen that these groups would carry out some attacks and then when the police faced them they stopped. This is what happened after the assas-sination of President Sadat (in 1981). This time we want as a police force to root out the extremists, to put an end to their activities. We want society to feel safe from these groups for the next 10 or 20 years."

Until recently the violence associated with militant Islam was limited to rare assassination attempts against senior government figures, relatively sporadie sectarian vandalism and fairly regular confrontations between police and members of Islamic groups. On the whole, few people were affected by the violence or

even knew that it was happening. But gradually over the past few years the violence has become more widespread and more di-verse io its nature. The Islamic groups began to single out writers and journalists as targets of assessination, as well as government officials. Then they hit at the tourist industry in Upper Egypt, killing several foreigners. Now they have brought their campaign right into the heart of Cairo. Every day now brings news of another attack, more arrests or a new counter-terrorist operation on the part of the police. And every day terrorism and extremism are the subject of numerous editorials and commentaries in

newspapers, radio and television. Much of the comment, as well as statements from the police, focuses on the international aspect of the wave of violence, especially after the bombing of the New York Trade Centre and the subsequent arrests of several Arab men. It is alleged by people like Gen. Baha Al Din that the Islamic groups in Egypt are acting movements in other parts of the Arab World and that together, guided by leaders living abroad, they are planning their strategy

for the whole region.

As proof of this, senior officers in the Egypuan Ministry of the Interior and officials in the Information Ministry point to the similarity between the wording of the statements of these groups issued in response to crises such as the Gulf war and the Bosnian conflict. Furthermore, according to Gen. Baha Al Din, underground tapes produced by different Islamic groups in different. Arab countries as part of their propaganda campaign are clearly derived from one source. The police claim that different groups in Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia are even coordinating their methods of confrontation, the use of particular types of explosive, and the use of motorcycles in assassina-

According to a senior Egypuan policeman who did not wish to be identified, one of the stimuli for this cooperation between different Arab Islamic groups was the Afghan war in which many Arab volunteers took part. They shared a common purpose, they undertook strenuous military training together, they saw combat and they had plenty of opportunity to discuss their ideas and build up a network for when they returned bome. Peshawar, the site of Afghan refugee camps on the Pakistan border, is still said to be the headquarters for some of the coordination between the groups, with members going back and forth on missions to the Arab World.

tion attempts.

An indication that Arab governments take this coordination between the groups seriously is that governments are now cooperating more than ever in combatting the groups on a regional level. Each year Arab interior ministers meet to discuss The campaign against militant Islam is now said to be the number one priority at these meetings. Last January the interior ministers of Egypt, Tunisia and

concerned — met specifically to deepen their cooperation. They sed that they took their training decided to open in April an Office for Arab Security Information, of which Gen. Baha Al Din Ibrahim is to be the director.

Escalating violence from Islamist groups raises questions

By Tom Porteous

"The main cooperation is the exchange of information," he explained. "But we are planning to make joint training here in Egypt to train the men responsible for facing these groups. They must be trained to a high degree, of course. We are also planning to exchange those accused of terror-

ist crimes in every country."
Gen. Baha Al Din thrahim points out that cooperation between Arab governments is not uniform, but depends on how severe a threat from Islamic militants each government faces. "You will notice," he says, "that this is a very severe problem in Egypt, and in Algeria for exam-ple; but it is nothing in Libya and it is nothing in Saudi Arabia. In Jordan there is a problem but it is not to the same degree, not in the same style. You cannot say it is a severe problem for these countries. Of course they must be aware of it and expecting it and they have to protect themselves. But there is a big difference between those who face the problem and those who expect it."

Since the Iranian revolition in 1979 and the assassination of President Sadat by Islamic militants two years later, the Egyptian government has frequently accused Teheran of supporting Islamic groups in Egypt. Di-plomatic relations have been almost non-existent. Now the Algerian government too, which used to have normal relations with the Islamic republie, has accused Iran of supporting the violent campaign of militant Islamie groups in Algeria and has cut diplomatic ties with Teheran. Egypt and Algeria also accuse Sudan, where the National Islamic Front has recently emerged as the ideological influence behind the military regime of Presi-

dent Omar Bashir. "The main evidence we have against Iran," says General Baha Al Din, "is that Iran itself announced that one of its main policies is to export its Islamic revolution to other countries. As Algeria — the three states most, for Sudan, when we arrested the trials of militant groups on

in camps in Sudan. That's the first evidence. And second, we have seized many different kinds of weapons coming from the south.

working together on the southern borders and we believe that most of the weapons in the hands of the Islamie groups are coming from Sudan. Can we say that the volved to this traffic? At least it is sure that the government did not take any strong steps to stop it."

The alleged involvement of

Sudan and Iran in support of the Islamic groups is used to justify the particularly hardline policies which Egypt, Tunisia and Algeria are now pursuing against the groups. Repressive tactics and counter-attacks are the main strategy of the Egyptian govern-ment. Yet observers point out that trying to cure some of the social ills and allowing Islamists to express themselves on the political scene would do much to defuse the situation.

And there is the problem of police behaviour: Human rights organisations in North Africa have now built up a substantial catalogue of abuses being carried out by the police in the campaign against militant Islam. Even if these abuses are not coordinnated there seems to be a pattern of state violence and intimidation which some critics say is counterproductive. Arbitrary arrests, toriure, military trials, the detention and torture of relatives of fugitive suspects including their wives and children, the deliberate killing of unarmed suspects by 'death squads", the rounding up of all the young men in villages or slums — the dossier of abuses compiled by human rights orga-nisations in the region makes depressing reading.

One of the achievements of the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (EOHR) has been not only to provide an insight into the dynamics of the conflict between the government and militant Islam, but also to question both the government's and the groups' version of the conflict, For instance Hisham Mubarak, a lawyer who has closely followed

behalf of the EOHR, is convinced that Sudanese or Iranian support for the militants operating in Egypt is being overplayed.
If foreign involvement plays a

minor part in the problem, critics of the government's strong-arm tactics say, the effectiveness of these methods in the campaign against extremist activities should be questioned. After all, people point out - not only in private conversation but also in the mainline press — the problem seems to be getting worse not better.

The obsession of governments with a pan-Arab militani Islamic plot to destabilise the region has blinded them to the more important domestic sources of the problem of militant Islam, according to Fahmy Howeidi, a columnist at Al Ahram, the largest Egyptian daily. "I think the main mistake of the government," he says "is that they thought the people are difficult to admit that you have a problem inside the country. It is difficult to say that we are having

social, economic, political problems. It is easier to say those people are supported or provoked by certain external sources or organisations."

"As long as the government is closing doors against legal political Islamic activities," says Mr. Howeidi, "I think things will get worse. We talk about cooperation between certain Arab countries in the security field against Islamic groups. We should ask why are these countries having problems with Islamic groups. The main problem is that authorities are insisting in oppressing the Islamic political groups."

Mr. Huweidi points out that in Arab countries like Jordan where the Islamic opposition has been allowed to participate in political life there is no serious violent threat from Islamic groups, "As long as there remains this political exclusion of political Islamic activities," he says, "I don't think the issue could be solved peacefully and we can expect more de-

terioration and more violence because the people want to participate and they should have the right to participate politically as long as they accept the law and the constitution.

But in the midst of its increasingly violent battle against the groups, the Interior Ministry shows no sign of changing its hardline policy. "We cannot stop this struggle between us and the fundamentalist groups," says Gen. Baha Al Din, "This strong way of facing them will make a loi of people think very hard before joining such groups. As for those who are already working in the groups, probably when they see that a bit of their colleagues have been killed they will stop... If we stop now, we will have achieved nithing... We have had a lot of success. It is a policy we have to carry out not only for one or two months, but continuously and we have rearranged our rorces to execute the policy throughout the country" — World News Link



At least 120 people have been killed in Egypt in the past year and the country has experi-enced its worst political violence since the

assassination of President Sadat in 1981 (WNL

### Russian police learning how to be cops — American style

By Matthew Schofield Reuter

HUTCHINSON - At an ahanduned cold war airbase in the rolling wheat fields of Kansas. live Russian police officers are learning the finer points of being caps — American style.

As a result of perestruika, they are studying with American police units at the University of Kansas Law Enforcement Train-

ing Centre near Hutchinson. They say the explosive growth of crime in economically ravaged Russia brought them half-way round the world to learn how to comhat problems at home.

Until their graduation April 30. they are studying everything from investigative techniques to how to use firearms.

"Next year, we will increase nur police farce by 30 per cent perhaps," said Gennady Nadezhkin, a 33-year-ald pulice captain in a suburh of St. Petersburg.

Russia's second city. "Since 1985, crime is increasing a recent interview

Russian expens say property crimes in that country have increased by as much as 250 per cent since 1985. All crimes are up an estimated 60 per cent, and the officers estimated property crime in one residential area of St. Petersburg with about 60,000 people was about 300 cases a

The other police officers from the St. Petersburg force attending the course are Captain Vladimir Zharinov, Major Sergei Fedorov, Lieutenant-Major Svetlana Gulubeva and Lieutenant-Major Elena Levanenko. They are the first pulice officers from the furmer Soviet Union to study criminulogy in the U.S. midwest. although other groups have stu-died on the U.S. east coast.

As part of their American training they have observed how police work in a number of small and large Kansas towns, with Maj. Fedurov recently helping

in our area constantly," he said in rubbery in the city of Topeka. deeper than better training, but "They work hard, even studying Kansas statutes they'll never again need to know," said Larry Welch, director of the training

> "They've got the same con-cerns as any Kansas police officer - a lack of manpower and equipment and a need fur new laws to effectively fight crime." Mr. Welch said. "What we've learned here is that pulice work is univer-

Viulent crime, once a stanstical rarity in what was the Soviet Union, has become more cummon with a sharp increase of firearms available un the black

"It's very fair to say there is a major crime wave under way in Russia. said Gahriel Schoenfeld, a senior fellow in Russian studies with the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"The law enforcement system has bruken down," Mr. Schoenune afficer investigate an armed feld said. "The problems go much the Kansas exchange might

However, the Russian police officers do not characterise the situation in their homeland so bleakly. Guns are still rare among the public, there is not the drug problem that the U.S. has, and a police afficer still decides befare he or she goes un assignment whether or not to take firearms along, they said.

Capt. Zbarinuv said the primary difference between Russian training and the training he has been getting in the U.S. is money. Although class size and hasic pulice studies are the same. there is also a greater emphasis in the U.S. on how to use police cars, which are not as plentiful back home, he said.

"I want to learn everything I can," Maj. Federov said, "Maybe it's tuo early to know what all the benefits of this visit will he, but neuple in my country are very tired of high prices, instability and crime.

### Mother of murder victim asks why neo-Nazi violence doesn't stop

By Terrence Petty

VETSCHAU, Germany — One of Gerda Zerna's most cherished keepsakes is a 1983 snapshot showing ber son Mike, holding his baby brother Oliver.

The two boys were always buddies, until Mike's recent murder by a neo-Nazi mob. Mike was only 22. Extremists

bludgeoned him outside an East German bar and then toppled a one-and-a-half-tonne van onto bis broken body — just because he had long hair. Cerda Zerna contends most

Germans and the authorities don't want to admit the magnitude of the far-right threat.

"Reality is being ignored. The leaders of these (neo-Nazi) groups are loose on the streets, telling younger kids that violence is a good thing," said Mrs. Zerna. In February, Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters claimed that "state measures... are working" against

neo-Nazi violence, and many be-

Federal authorities point out that attacks against foreigners and other far-right crimes have declined from a peak of 536 last September to a monthly average

of about 150 so far this year. The Interior Ministry attributed the drop to bans on four neo-Nazi organisations, other new anti-extremist measures, and grassroots protests.

But, while far-right crimes have indeed dropped since last fall, the count for the first four months of 1993 has actually outpaced the number for the same period last year: about 600, compared to 472.

That works out to five such crimes a day for the start of this year, about one-fifth of them arson attacks on asylum shelters, which house underprevileged immigrants.

There were 17 killings last year and 2,200 injuries. A Turk and two Germans have died so far this year, and 300 people are known to have been injured.

Neo-nazi crimes appear to be a said seasonal phenomenon in Germany, with the greatest surge occurring in summer and autumn. That was the case in 1991 and

again last year. Even if that doesn't happen this year, the final hate-crime tally for 1993 could surpass last year's record 2,285 at the current

Known membership in extreme-right groups is up. according to the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, which monitors extremists: from about 39,800 in 1991 to

42,700 at the end of last year. Neo-Nazi organisations have easily circumvented the federal ban by changing their names. But the government insists it has not been trying to play down

the far-right threat. Interior Ministry spokesman Detlev Bouke said the new law enforcement measures have made neo-Nazis more heistant to attack. "But that doesn't mean it's

time to give the all-clear," he

families of neo-Nazis' victims. Mustafa Demiral, a 56-year-old Turk who came to Germany in the 1960s as a "guest worker." died in a mock execution in the

West German city of Muelheim of March 9. Two radicals beat him. One of them put an air pistol to his head and pulled the trigger three times. The gun didn't fire. But Demiral died of a heart

No one needs to tell that to

Karl Starb, a 45-year-old Ger-man, died on Jan. 15. A groundskeeper at a park in the East German city of Arnstadt, he was beaten unconscious by a gang of teenage skinheads. They threw him out into a busy street and he was run over by two cars.

Mike Zerna lived with his pa-

rents and three brothers in Vetschau, a working-class community

According to witnesses, about 20 skinheads kicked Mike with their heavy paratrooper boots and overturned a van onto him.

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To the attention of Mr. Charles Achard Administrative & Financial Manager

**ECONOMIC NEWS IN BRIEF** 

NICOSIA (R) - Iran has agreed to export five million cubic

metres of natural gas per day to the former Soviet republic of Georiga, Iran's IRNA news agency has said. It said the deal was not of an arms of arms of arms of arms of arms of a a

Mahmoud Vaezi in Tbilisi under which Iran would also help

Georgia in oil exploration and petrochemical projects. The

report, monitored in Nicosia, did not say how the gas would be

shipped or how Georiga, which is torn by civil war and suffers

**UAE** duty free shops boost trade, revenues

ABU DHABI (R) - Duty free shops at the United Arab

Emirates' (UAE) main airports recorded their highest revenues

last year by luring passengers with raffles offering cash, gold and luxury cars, managers said. Dubai International Airport, the

UAE's largest airport with 5.4 million passengers, bursted

revenues at its duty free shop by 35 per cent to \$1.35 million in

1992, public relations manager Anita Mehra said. Anitual

revenues bave risen six-fold since the shop, where travellers can buy tax-free luxury goods, opened in 1983. "A lot of the passengers were attracted by the car raffle," Ms. Mehra said.

We've raffled 187 cars since it was set up." Abu Dhabi airport's

duty free revenues rose to 161 million dirhams (\$43.8 milliont in

1992 from 143 million dirhams (\$38.9 million) in 1991. Passenger

traffic rose to 2.4 million. Annual revenues stood at So.5 million

in 1984, its first year of operations. Marketing manager Niveen Ibrahim said this year they were spending three million durhams

from an acute energy shortage, would pay for it.

part of an agreement reached by Iranian Deputy Forcien Minister

Iran to export gas to Georgia

# **EC** monetary committee urges 'warning lights' on ERM turmoil

LONDON (R) — A system of "warning lights" should he set up to alert European Community (EC) nations to currency strains and prevent a rerun of last September's turmoil in the exchange rate mechanism (ERM). top monetary officials say.

A confidential report by the EC's monetary committee, to be discussed by finance ministers at informal talks in Denmark Sunday, says the ERM needs to change its internal rules and "break new ground" after a hout of speculative attacks.

One potentially explosive recommendation would allow any country - not just the nation whose currency is under fire — to seek a devaluation of currencies

thought to be out of line. "One of the lessons to be drawn from the recent turmoil is

when necessary, well in advance of the development of expectations of change on the markets." The report of the secretive committee, made up of top finance ministry and central bank officials, was drawn up after heavy speculative pressure forced

that the European Monetary Sys-

tem should adapt its internal rules

at this point and break new

ground." the report says. "Its

procedures should lead to action.

rency grid in September. The strains have continued. with the latest casualties Spain and Portugal, whose currencies

Britain and Italy to withdraw

their currencies from the EC cur-

were devalued last week. Denmark's vote Tuesday in favour of the Maastricht treaty on economic and political union has eased pressure on the ERM but report as the basis for talks on how to prevent new strains break-

ing out.
The document, a copy of which was obtained by Reuters, says the EC must monitor the ERM more closely and "continuously ask itself whether and to what extent the parity grid is sustainable and corresponds to the underlying economic situation.

It suggests a confidential set of economic indicators be drawn up. These could be thought of as warning lights and would mainly include measures of competitiveness to detect in advance whether EC exchange rates were moving out of line.

The commirtee also recommeods a key change in the way the ERM has functioned since it was set up on the initiative of ment.

finance ministers will use the France and Germany as a "zone of monetary stability" in 1979. Since then, it has always been the country whose currency is under attack which has called for

a "realignment" or change in its pre-set value against other member currencies. If ministers agree, countries with strong currencies could take the initiative if they thought n weak-currency country was refus-

ing to devalue and destabilising the whole system . The report fires a warning shot at Britain and Italy should they want to rejoin - in Britain's case a remote chance after repeated statements by Prime Minister

John Major against this. It says nations whose currencies are floating outside the ERM can only rejoin by "mutual agree-

### **Boom in China will** change Asia, says think tank

tional Institute for Strategic Stu- as a centre-driven, single state by dies (IISS) has said that China's economic boom was transforming the future of east Asia and could also change the country's politics and frontiers.

Noting that China's freemarket reforms had brought a remarkable 12 per cent growth last year, the IISS, one of the world's top think tanks, said the communist giant might come close to being the world's largest

economy by the year 2010.

"And yea." the 11SS said in its annual review of world affairs. the flourishing is bringing with it fundamental changes in China's economy, political system and perhaps even its frootiers.

"It is also reshaping the way east Asians are beginning to look at their future ...even the Japanese are adjusting to it," said the review. "Strategic Survey 1992-1993.

The IISS said Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping had surged forward with economic reform to avoid the collapse of Communist Party control that befell the Soviet Union but some regions had gone ahead of others.

This was causing insecurity in Peking, despite the country's economic boom and the decline of the military threat from Russia, it

so much regional diversity that or another."

LONDON (R) - The Interna- China might not be recognisable early in the next century," it said:

Japan, hy contrast, was the scene of political stagnation, the 11SS said. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazwa "has proved a disappointment in navigating through some very choppy wa-

ters," the survey said.
"He has appeared half-hearted over political reform, disengaged from the economy's problems and hesitant in dealing with a major corruption scandal. The Japanese (also) still seem confounded by the rapid pace of change in international affairs and unable to establish new approaches to fureign and defence policy." it added.

But the ILSS predicted that Japanese voters' distaste for widespread change could contique to keep reform to a mini-

Turning to North and South Korea, the HSS said hopes for an end to the stalemate between the two countries had evaporated last year, and "without a basic change in the troglodyte North Korean regime ...the Knrean Peninsula looks set for a further period of

The IISS described as ominous the March decision by North Knrea to withdraw from the nuclear and added, without clahoration, that "there may be no re-Rapid growth might require medy short of force in one form

#### Taiwan said to slow infrastructure spending TAIPEI (R) - The Taiwan government, facing a financtal

(\$817,000) to expand the sbop.

squeeze, will cut spending on its huge infrastructure programme next year and delay the completion of some projects, a new year? has said. A cabinet committee has decided to slash spending under the island's six-year development plan to 591 billion T.uw.an dollars (\$22.8 billion) in the fiscal year to June 1994 from 758 bilbon Taiwan dollars (\$29.3 billion) originally planued, the mass-circulation China Times said. Government spending on the plan is expected to total 620 billion Taiwan dollars (\$23.9 billion) in the current fiscal year, the newspaper quoted unnamed officials as saying. It said the government now planned to delay completion of the six-year plan, which originally envisaged spending by the public and private sectors of about \$3(k) billion between 1991 and 1997, to the year 2000. The plan includes construction of roads, ports, power plants and other facilities in upgrade Taiwan's infrastructure and propel it into the ranks of developed economies. But the government, warning that state finances were under severe pressure after several years of record budget deficits, announced in March that it would consider slowing the six-year plan. A formal policy announcement is expected around July.

## IMF, World Bank lend Pakistan \$1.25b

Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) agreed new loans of \$1.25 billion Saturday to save Pakistan from what the interim finance minister called the disastrous consequences of his pre-

decessors' profligacy. This understanding is the best solution out of the impasse in Pakistan." caretaker Finance Minister Farooq Leghari told a news conference.

The IMF has agreed to provide soft loans of about \$1.0 billion to Pakistan under its enbanced structural facility programme (ESAF), 1MF team leader Mobammad Al Erian told reporters at the end of a two-week

The money would be disbursed over three years at what Mr. Al Erian called concessionary rates of 0.5 per cent over 10 years with the first installment expected to be given to Pakistan in October.

The loan was agreed on the basis of commitment expressed by Pakistan's caretaker government to continue structural reforms introduced by sacked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to

liberalise the economy, Mr. Al Erian said.

Another condition was the imposition of tighter fiscal discipline, Mr. Al Erian said.

Mr. Al Erian and Mr. Leghari refused to say whether the two sides had agreed on a target for cutting Pakistan's yawning fiscal

Finance ministry officials bave said the budget deficit could bit 7.4 per cent of gross domestic prodoct (GDP) in fiscal 1992/93 (July/June) compared with a forecast 5.3 per cent.

The deficit made up 6.1 per cent of GDP in 1991/92, down from 8.8 per cent the previous year but well short of the 4.8 per cent target set bny the IMF as part of conditions for aid.

It will be Pakistan's first loan from the IMF under the ESAF since the previous structural adjustment facility (SAF)

finished last December. The three-year \$966 million SAF loan ran into difficulties when payments were suspended for a year in 1990 after Pakistan failed to bring down its fiscal deficit to 4.8 per cent of GDP. The World Bank has agreed to give Pakistan \$250 million under the public sector adjustment loan in the form of balance of pay-

ments support:

Mr. Leghari said he found as economy in crisis when he took over as finance minister on April 18 after President Ghulam Ishaq Khan sacked Mr. Sharif's 30month-old government on charges of nepotism, economic mismanagement and handing out

business favours to friends. There had been a profligacy in spending and a lackf of re-source mobilisation for several years," Mr. Leghari said.

Public domestic debt rose to 600 billion rupees (\$23 billion) this year from 381 billion (\$14 billion) in 1989/90. Foreign debt has grown by 3.5

billion in the past two years to total nearly \$18.5 billion at the end of 1992/93 with debt servicing at \$1.5 billion this year, be said. He warned that debt servicing could become the largest single expenditure unless swift action

Mr. Leghari declined to give details of the conditions of the loans or of policies to be implemented, saying only that taxation would be a big component of the budget due on Jone 10.

The budget would be operational for four months, giving time to the next government, which is to be elected in polls on July 14, to decide which policies it would adopt.

Mr. Leghari said the agreement foresaw economic growth of 7.5 per cent. "This will require revenue measures and improving the structure and quality of tax." "We will exercise prudence in expenditure in areas where there was profligacy in the past," he

Negative growth of 3.0 per cent in the vital agriculture sector has more than halved the economic growth rate to three per cent in 1992/93. Mr. Leghari said last week, Pakistan had forecast growth at 6.3 per cent for this

A final decision on the ESAF disbursement had previously been expected after the budget

### China hopes to join top 10 trading nations

PEKING (AP) - The trade minister said China hopes to increase its foreign trade to \$200 billion by 1995 and enter the ranks of the world's top 10 trading countries, an official newspaper has said. The China Daily quoted Wu Yi, minister of foreign trade and economic cooperation, as saying China will speed passage of its first foreign trade law and improve and diversify exports in an effort to meet the goal. Mr. Wu said China also will pursue border trade with newly emerging markets in the former Soviet republics and South East Asia. China's border trade more than doubled last year. China was the world's eleventh largest trader in 1992 with a trade volume of \$165.63 billion, ahead of Taiwan, Singapore, and South Korea but behind Hong Kong, according to a recent Xinbua news agency

## European car sales forecasts spark crisis worries

LONDON (R) — General A.G. (V.W.). Motors (G.M.) Europe Eriday cut its forecast for Euroepean car Co.'s European operation foresaid new projections for the recession-bit market were the worst for 25 years.

A spokeswoman for Vauxhall Motors in Britain, which together with Germany's Opel comprises G.M. Europe, said the companay expects total industry sales in 1993 to fall by 14.3 per cent to 11.53 million from 13.45 million in 1992. The forecast covers sales of all cars in 17 European coun-

"This is a crisis," said Keith Hayes, European motor industry

analyst at Merrill Lynch. But G.M. Europe, up to now the most profitable car maker in Europe, has cut its forecast less savagely than rivals Ford Motor Co. and Germany's Volkswagen

million cars, down 18.8 per cent from 1992. And Ford told analysts in the United States it was increasingly unlikely to make

a profit in Europe this year. V.W. which made a group loss of 1.25 billion marks (\$770 million) in the first quarter, took the most pessimistic view. It expects total sales to fall by more than 20 per cent and it saw the recession continuing into 1994.

"With those new estimates it's difficult to see anybody making a profit," said John Lawson, motor industry analyst at independent forecasters DRI/McGraw Hill.

"Ford, Fiat and Volkswagen are already likely to make a loss but with a fall of 20 per cent it's difficult to envisage even the

French and G.M. (Europe) on operations elsewhere.

makers will have to idle factories for far longer than they bave envisaged," Mr. Lawson said. However, be said he was stick-

ing to his forecast of a fall in sales of more than 10 per cent this year to 12 million cars. Recession across Europe and rising unemployment have prompted companies to rethink

investment plans but not all major car firms plan to reduce output this year. The Vauxhail spokeswoman said G.M. bad no plans to cut output and expected to increase

A Ford spokesman said it bad no plans to reduce production in Britian but declined to comment

its market share despite lower

pean car job losses could total 200,000 in the next few years. V.W. trimmed production by 21 per cent in the first quarter.

Analysts said there might be a hidden political agenda behind car firms' pessimistic public utterances. The European car industry association ACEA is putting pressure on the European Commission to renegotiate an export deal with Japan.

Japan's motor vehicle exports declined for the first time in three years in the year to March, reflecting the global recession and an increase in overseas produc-

The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said exports fell 2.9 per cent from the previous

The ontcome foreshadowed even bleaker expectations for the current year, analysts said, blaming the appreciation of the yen. persistent economic doldrums in Europe and stiffer competition.

Asia

"South East Asia will continue to buy more Japanese cars, but that is not enough to offset ex-pected falls in the United States and Europe," said Takasbi Kawamura, an analyst with New Japan Securities Co. Ltd.

Exports to Asia shot up 24.5 per cent to 693,104 units during the year, led by sales to China that more than doubled to 188,617 units. Exports were also brisk to the Middle East, Latin America and Oceania.

on operations elsewhere.

year to 5.66 million units, with In contrast, exports to the Unsteep declines in exports to North ited Standsplunged 14.1 per cent Co.'s European operation fore"The first quarter was very bad"

Fond is cutting 10,000 of its steep declines in exports to North, ited Statesplunged 14.1 per cent

The first quarter was very bad 93,000 jobs in Europe this year

America and Europe out
to 1.74 million units while those sales in 1993 and industry analysts cast total 1993 sales of 10.92 and if that situation persists car and analysts have said total Euro- weighing a surge in exports to to Europe fell 7.2 per cent to 1.61

Exports of cars alone decreased 2.3 per cent to 4.41 million units, the first drop in three years, while truck exports slumped 7.4 per cent to 1.16 million units, the seventh consecutive decline. But bus exports jumped 41.1 per cent to 81,747

units, the association said. By value, exports soared 9.3 per cent to a record \$82.1 billion as prices were inflated by a stron-

In Mareb alone, bowever, there were strong signs of a recovery. Exports grew 6.1 per cent to 562,791 units over February. Car exports advanced 7.1 per cent to 443,823 units.

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MAY 23, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Faure Part GENERAL TENDENCIES: Combine your best judgement with your most intuitive and prophetic insight today so that you will be better able to gain the right phi-

that you are a remarkable indi-vidual. ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) During the day you can consider where you want to make some changes without yet putting them

losophy of life proving to others

in effect, tonight hrings a need to consider your public image. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Avoid dealing directly with any material or mundane problems that face you today and sidestep the urge to go 10 new places tu attain ideas tonight.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You want to reach a new accord with an nlly but aspects indicate its not the right time so instead carry through with what you've agreed in do. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 tu July 21) You want to be of service to others hut don't expect thunks today if you do, while tonight sidestep a partner whu is eager to cui you down to size.

LEO: (July 22 August 21) You can have a pleasant time during the day if you stick to simple and inexpective pleasures while tonight work is a bore so enjoy music. TV. radio. VIRGO: (August 22 tu September 22) Matters at home require careful consideration and cuutiuus

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solutions so be in such an attitude. while tonight hrings a need to use self-control at entertainment

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22). Using this daytime to extend, your knowledge can be disappointing but do your hest answay and later you are in a better position to handle some perplexities

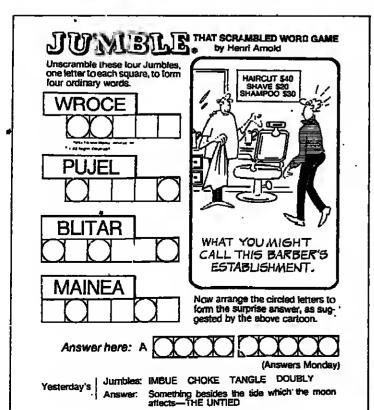
SCORPIO: (Octuber 23 to November 21) Try to steer clear from some arguments over finances in the daytime while in the evenine its nut advisable to bring up mout points with a close companion SAGITTARIUS: [November 22 to December 21) You feel trustrated

in doing and getting the things vita want so postpone them until a hetter time and in the exeming be equally careful in spending money CAPPICORN: [December 22 to January 20) Busy yourself getting rid of anything private that stands in the way iff your progress in the murning, tonight consider how best to attain cherished longings AQUARIUS: (January 2) to February 19) You find persons you would like to see are busy with their own concerns so handle vours, in the evening do something

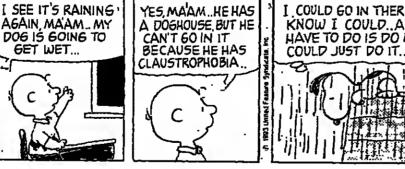
to cheerup yor attachment PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You would be wise to attend to personal and not worldly interests in the morning and to the cagely with friends who have aver they want you to grind.

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#### THE BETTER HALF, By Harris I'M AN OPTIMIST. PESSIMIST HOUSEWIFE. I THINK I THINK I THINK THE GLASS IS HALF, THE GLASS THE GLASS IS HALF IS HALF EMPTY! FULL ! DIRTY!



#### **Peanuts**





#### **Andy Capp**



### Mutt'n'Jeff



#### THE Daily Crossword by Harry Bryan 1 Out-of-dat 6 FOR's pet 10 Ethnic group 14 Throbbed 14 Throbbed 15 Algerian city 18 Norwegian sain 17 Renders senseless 18 Weaken by subversion 20 Small amounts 21 Black cuckoo 22 Yeast, for one 23 Make up one's mind mind 25 Hemingway or Borgnine 26 Take for granted 28 Pouch 29 Burmese gibbor 30 TV ploneer, Mitton 33 Bottle parts 37 JULES 39 Meted out 41 Faucet proble 42 More extension 44 Performers 45 Vane letters 47 Rim 49 Servitude class Puzzie Spived: 8 Young man 9 Anoints, old 51 Grate noisily 54 Swiss house 55 Taiks idiy 56 Turncoat 57 Thailand, once 60 Memory abitity 52 Mello ye abitity style 10 Courted 11 in existence 12 Walking aids 13 Main or bless 62 Make up for 63 Roman way 64 Coup d'— 19 Played a reel 65 Five: pretix 66 Hardy heroins 24 New Jon 26 Farm implement 27 Indian princess 31 — tse (Chin. philosopher) 32 Circus

performers 34 Fashion designs 35 Face card

51 Diagonal spor 52 Mediterranean island

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Сигтевсу	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MILES	12 MIIIS
U.S. Dollar	3.00	3.13	3,22	3.62
Sterling Pound	5.94	5.94	5.98	6.09
Deutsche Mark	7.68	7.37	7.00	6.56
Swiss Franc	5.02	5.00	4.81	4.56
French Franc	7.73	7.35	7.00	6.57
Japanese Yeu	3.25	3.25	3. Şt	3.37
European Currency Unit	7.93	7.50	7.3t	7.00

Date: 21/5/1993 USD/Oz JD/Gm USD/Oz JD/Gm\* Gold 7.10 Silver 578.38 4.67 .010

exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent

	. Dat	Date: 22/5/1993		
Currency .	Bid -	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0.6860	.06880		
Sterling Pound	1_0567	1.0620		
Deutsche Mark	0.4209	0,4230		
Swiss Franc	0.4662	0.4685		
French Franc	V. 1252	0. 1258		
japanese Yen*	0.6205	0.6236		
Dutch Guilder	0.3764	0.3783		
Swedish Krona	0.0941	0.0946		
Malian Lire*	0.0463	0.0465		
Belgian Franc	0.02053	0.02063		

Other Currencie Date: 22/5/1993 Offer Currency Bahraini Dina 1.7970 1.8300 Lebanese Lira 0.03820 0.04047 Sandi Riyal 0.1826 0.18<u>38</u> Kuwalti Dinar 2.2300 2.2800 Qatari Riyal 0, 1858 0.1870 Egyptian Pound 0.1950 0.2100 Omani Riyal 1.7450 1.7850 UAE Dirham 0.1858 0.1870 Greek Drachma\* 0.3118 0.3418 Cypriot Pound 1.4130 1.4430

Index ·	12/5/1993 Close	19/5/1993	Close
All-Share	203.62	206.24	
Banking Sector	144.33	147.09	·
Insurance Sector	211.05	211.14	
Industry Sector	. 1 285.67	288.53	
Services Sector	273.81	270.35	

### Saudi Arabia reports banking, industrial growth ABU DHABI (Agencies) -

Saudi Arabia has reported strong growth in its banking and industrial sectors in what it said was a return of confidence in the economy following the Gulf war.

In its annual report, the Saudi Arahia Monetary Agency (SAMA) said deposits with the kingdom's 12 commercial hanks had steadily increased since the end of the war, which triggered a capital flight from the region.

After a loss of 3.6 billion rivals (\$960 million) just after the 1990 fraqi invasion of Kuwait, deposits jumped by 19.2 per cent to 171.2 hillion riyals (\$45.6 hillion) at the end of 1991, and by 3.6 per cent to 177.4 riyals (\$47.3 hillion) at the end of 1992.

The deposits continued to in-

ANKARA (R) - Turkish

businessmen, planning invest-

ments of over \$800 million in

Turkmenistan, have said the re-

public offered vast opportunities

to foreign investors.

"Turkmeoistan is the most promising republic in Central

Asia," Cengiz Demirtas, market-

ing manager at Ortas, a trading

company, told Reuters. "Its

population is only four million,

but it can earn at least \$5 billion

from natural gas sales alone. So

its per capita income may jump

Turkmenistan's Deputy President Nazar Suyunov, quoted by

Anatolian News Agency, said foreign investors could transfer

their profits freely out of the

"Investments with over 30 per

cent of foreign capital involve-

ment are exempted from taxes for three years," he said.

sharply in the future."

(\$49.8 hillion) at the end of March, a rise of 5.3 per cent, SAMA said in the report.

"This is due to the return of confidence in the Saudi economy in general in the wake of the Gulf crisis," the report noted.

Most Gulf states reported a sharp decline in deposits in the first two months after the Kuwait invasion, which sparked a panie rush for withdrawals and transfer of money outside the region,

According to a report by the Ahu Dhahi-hased Arah Monetary Fund, around \$23 billion in government and private funds were moved out of the Gulf in 1991, mostly from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. A post-war husiness upturn in

Anatolian said 12 Turkish firms

planned to invest \$830 million in

Turkmenistan, rich in natural

gas, oil, cotton and livestock. The

investments include turn-key pro-

jects in tourism, textiles and agri-

"Turkmenistan can now pro-

cess only three per cent of its

(annual) cotton output of 1.4

its underground resources."

Namik Kemal Ekinci, deputy

president of Ekinciler Holding,

Ekinciler Holding is negotiat-

ing with Turkmenistan to build a

hotel, two flour factories, a pasta

plant and a hahy food factory, as

well as three coldstores and a

but no processing plants. It needs to improve its infrastructure. In

the short-run lively business

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"Turkmeoistan has everything

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million tonnes. It needs to exploit

cultural and food industries.

the region also enabled Saudi banks to make record profits. which stood at \$978 hillion in 1992 compared with \$565 million in 1991, an increase of 73 per

SAMA said foreign assets declined by 12.5 hillian rivals (\$3.3 billinn) to 10k.4 billion rivals (\$28.3 hillion) in 1992.

But at the end of March they recovered to 116.4 hillion rivals (\$31 hillian), accounting for around 38.7 per cent of total

It also reports growth in the capitals and reserves of Saudi banks, pushing up-shareholders equities by 5.7 hillion rivals (\$1.52 billion) to 24.5 billion riyals (\$6.53 billion) in 1992, and to 26.6 billion rivals [\$7.09 hil-

opportunities may emerge for foreigners, particularly in the

telecommunications field," Mr.

Demirtas said. The cash-poor re-

public, he added, currently relied

on barter as its main trade tool.

lian, Japanese and U.S. firms

were studying investment pro-

jects in banking, oil, glass, sugar,

serves of 700 million tonnes.

pipeline from Turkmenistan

textiles and construction.

Mr. Ekinci said Argentine, Ita-

Loans and grants to the private sector also surged by 18.4 per cent to 87.2 hillion rivals (\$23.2 billion) in 1942, and by 7.6 per cent to 93.8 hillion rivals (\$25) hillion) at the end of March.

In the industrial sector, the focus of a government drive to lessen reliance on nil, real growth stood at nine per cent in 1991 and 76 new imbustrial units were set up with a capital of 1.6 hillion rivals (\$420 million).

This brought the total industrial units to 1.886 with investment of 114.8 hillion rivals (\$30.6 bil-

lion), providing 150,000 jobs. The industrial sector is poised for more growth as the kingdom's giant, the Saudi Arahian Basic Industries Company, has

Turks plan to invest \$830m in Turkmenistan across Turkey to Europe. Turkey's Eximbank gave Turk-menistan credits worth \$75 mil-

lion in 1992 to help finance impots of Turkish goods.

Let Arames: Air Cargo Turkish energy officials say the former Soviet republic has estitake care of the works. mated natural gas reserves of 8.1 trillion cubic metres and oil re-Door to Door. Turkmenistan, now in the rou-Call the friendly ble zone, said last year it planned

to introduce its own currency professionals on Turkey and Turkmenistan. 660507 or 660508 sharing ethnic and cultural ties, signed a provisional agreement ARAMEX last year to build a natural gas

**JORDAN** 

MARKET PLACE

embarked on major expansion ptojects.

The company now produces around 13 million tonnes a year of petrochemicals and other petroleum products, and the expansion projects, costing \$8 hillion,

tonnes by 1945. The report said that Saudi griss national product [GNP] grew by an average of more than 10 per cent during the two years of the Gulf crisis and would grow more than five per cent in both 1982 and 1993.

will push output to 30 million

The report said GNP grew 10.8 per cent in 1990 and 9.8 per cent

The desert kingdom spent a total of 476.8 billion riyals (\$127 billion) in 1990 and 1991 compared to earnings of 316 telefficier 1884.4 billion) during the same period, the report sinf.

In line with the 1993 hinleet announced in January, SAMA forecast a deficit of 27.8 Julion rivals 1\$7.4 billion) this year, to be linanced through government burrowing.

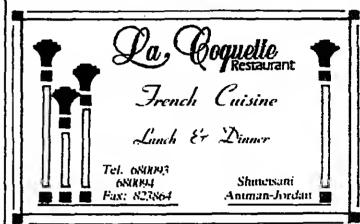
hillion the government plans to spend in 1943 has been allocated

to defence and security. Oil exports increased by 8.9 per cent in 1941 to 167.7 billion riyals (\$43.5 billion). Nouraul evports carned Rivadh 15.3 billion

rivals (\$4.1 billion) in the same Saudi Arabia's trade surplus dropped five per cent in 1991 to 81.3 billion rivals [\$21.7 lullion). Imports continued to rise in the past three years, reaching an esti-

mated 122.7 hillion rivals (\$32.7 hillion) in 1982. The report said the cost of living tell 0.4 per cent last year when Riyadh em prices for losic goods, mainly oil products for domestic consumption. It said that despite a rise of 4.2 per cent in the cost of living in 1991 Saudi Arabia still empyed one of the world's lowest inflation rates

The report said latest census figures showed that Saudi Arahia's population had doubled in the past 20 years to reach 1



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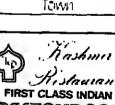
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### 3 killed in Sarajevo shelling

SARAJEVO (R) — At least three people were killed and 45 wounded in renewed shelling of Sarajevo Saturday as Washington and its partners tried to patch up their rift over how to end the war in Bosnia.

A deputy prime minister in the Muslim-led government, Zlatko Lagumdzija, was among those injured in what U.N. officials said was the worst barrage of the Serbbesieged Bosnian capital since the warring sides signed a truce on May 8.

Doctors at the French hospital where Lagumdzija was taken said he was in satisfactory condition after stomach surgery.

The casualty figures were reported by two main hospitals in Sarajevo. The latest fighting followed shelling Friday in which four people were killed and more than 30, many of them children, were in-.iured.

The city's television station and a first aid post were hit but there were in reports of casualties in either incident.

Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio said several civilians had also been killed or wounded in the past 24 hours in a Serb artillery assault on

KIEV (R) - A fire and explo-

sion that killed a worker at a

Ukrainian nuclear power station

- Europe's largest - was no different from any industrial acci-

But they acknowledged the in-

cident at the Zaporizha station

would hoost opposition to govern-

ment plans to expand the nuclear

industry's capacity seven years

dent, officials said Saturday.

the northeastern town of

A spokesman for the U.S. Protection Force could not confirm reports of clashes around Maglaj. where the Bosnian Serb army has accused Muslim forces of launching attacks.

But he confirmed there had been fighting Friday around Brcko, another northern town which controls a key Serb supply

Battles have raged on in Bosnia, albeit at a lower iotensity, as the United States, Russia and Europe try to forge a common strategy to eod the 14-month conflict following Bosnian Serb rejection of the current U.N.backed peace plan.

U.S. President Bill Chnton has backed away from his plan to arm the Muslims and bomb the Serbs after resistance from Russia and

He said Friday he was sceptical that what was now being proposed could end the conflict, but officials said the United States might be ready to live, at least temporarily, with war gains by the Serbs, now in control of 70 per cent of Bosnia.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher planned more talks with America's allies Saturday amid reports that progress was being made.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Christopher's discussions with the foreign ministers of France, Britain, Russia and Spain were likely to be held jointly. The group could announce afterwards a common set of principles on solv-

ing the Bosnian crisis. Without being overly optimistic on such a complex issue. I think that the proposals which have been made by the various parties can constitute a jont plan and lead. I hope, to an agree-ment," French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said Friday.

Ideas under discussion include expansion of Muslim "safe areas," tightened sanctions, creation of a war crimes tribunal and deployment of monitors on Bosnia's border with Yngoslavia to ensure no arms flow to Bosnian

But an expected U.N. resolution on the monitors appeared to have been scuppered in advance by Dobrica Cosic, president of the rump Yugoslav Federation of Serbia and Montenegro.

"They (U.N. monitors) do not solve the problem and they endanger our sovereignty and offend the dignity of our state," Mr. Cosic told Britain's Sky News Television in an interview.

Belgrade, previously hlamed for fuelling the war, threw its weight behind the U.N.-backed peace plan earlier this month hoping the world would respond by lifting crippling economic sanctions against Serbiadominated Yugoslavia.

When Bosnia's Serbs rejected the plan, Belgrade declared its ment," Mr. Juppe told reporters.

lapsed after the government and

UNITA rebels failed to agree on

a draft peace package, raising

fears that the civil war may inten-

A final session of the six-week-

old talks in Ivory Coast broke up without success Friday night and

participants said negotiations

go on and probably to intensify." Margaret Anstee, the United Na-

tions special envoy to Angola.

told reporters in the Ivorian

"That means we have to inten-

when talks between UNITA

(National Union for the Total

Independence of Angola) and the

MPLA (Popular Movement for

the Liberation of Angola) gov-

Ms. Anstee said the main

stumbling-point was a key milit-

ary clause in the draft peace

agreement saying UNITA fighters would withdraw from areas

two sides together again.

ernment would restart.

capital Abidjan.

"I'm afraid the war is going to

were suspended indefinitely.

border with Bosnia closed except for food and medicines.

Mr. Cosic said the sanctions had put Yugoslavia in "a ghetto, a quarantine, a concentration camp" and made Serbia aod Montenegro hostages to the civil

Good progress is being made on a "realistic and agreed way" to stop the fighting in Bosnia, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Friday.

We are not there yet. There is some work still to be done. But compared to a week or so ago. those of us involved in these consultations are clearly moving together," he said after meeting with Secretary-General Boutros

"I think it's making good prog-ss," he told reporters at the United Nations.

"The aim is to have a realistic and agreed way of containing thefighting, reducing the fighting, stopping the fighting, and then moving forward to a just and equitable peace."

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who saw Dr. Ghali earlier in the day, also said he hoped the United States and Europeans could reach a common policy on

Bosnia.
"Without being overly optimistic on such a complex issue. I think that the proposals which have been made by the various parties can constitute a joint plan and lead. I hope, to an agree-

Michelle McLean, Miss Universe 1992 of Namibia (right) Friday puts the crown on Dayanara Torres of Puerto Rico (left), the new Miss Universe 1993 (AFP photo)

### Miss Puerto Rico is crowned Miss Universe

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Daya- the semifinalists eliminated. nara Torres, a student and parttime model from Puerto Rico. was chosen Friday night as Miss Universe 1993 out of a field of 79

was swarmed by fellow cootestants as she was crowned hy Miss Universe 1992, Michelle McLean of Namibia.

As the new Miss Universe, Miss Torres wins \$200,000 worth of prizes, She will spend a year making official appearances around the world.

Panla Betancourt, 21, of Medellin, Colombia, wore a slim, black strapless gown trimmed with sparkling silver thinestones. as she was chosen the first runner-up. Mika Chuina, 19, of Maracay, Venezenla, in an orange gown with a hoop skirt and gold brocade, was made second runner-up in the glittering

Miss Torres was chosen from the top three finishers after a final round of questioning hy the judges. All were asked: "If you are chosen as Miss Unvierse, what do you want to accomplish?

Miss Torres said she would focus on young people. "I believe that we should turn our energies to the children of the world, because that is where our future

Miss Colombia said she would work to join the nations of the world together in an ecological campaign to make the earth safe for future generations. Miss Venezuela said she would strive to turn people's negative attitudes into positive ones.

The three were chosen from a field of 10 semifinalists. Kenya Moore of the United States, Australia's Voni Dolfos, Leila Schuster of Brazil, Pavlina Barbukova of the Czech Republic, Tarja Smura of Finland, Namarta Shirodkar of India and

The mayor of Santurce and others from Miss Torres' hometown cheered the brown baired. blue eyed model, who is 5 feet 81/2 inches (174 cms) tall.

Dressed in a strapless white sevening gown, Miss Torres, 18, was swarmed by fellow each.

The 10 semifinalists were chosen Monday after the swimsuit and evening gown events. But the names kept secret until Friday's two-hour ceremony that was seen by more than 600 million viewers worldwide,

The competition for a crown, scholarship and prizes this year drew contestants as varied as an aspiring anchorwoman, psychologists and architects.

During four weeks of appearances, the contestants visited beach resorts in Oaxaca, Campeche and the colonial city of Zacatecas. In the semifinals Monday

\$1,000 check for being the contestant with "the world's most beautiful hair." Miss Ghana was chosen as Miss Congeniality and Miss Spain as Miss Photogenic.

Cecilia Bolocco of Chile, a popular announcer ou Spanishnguage television in the United States, and American TV announcer Dick Clark were hosts for the final event, Miss Bolocco was Miss Universe 1987.

Miss Universe 1989, Angela Visser of the Netherlands, was special commentator for the third year in a row.

Judges included Venezuelan singer and actress Maria Conchita Alonso, who earlier represented ber country in the contest, and Miss Universe 1991 Lupita Jones of Mexico, whose new book 'Word Of The Queen, minces no words in its behind-the-scenes

look at beauty contests. This was the third time the Miss Universe contest has been held in Mexico. It was held in Acapulco in 1978 and in Cancun Eugenia Santana of Spain were in 1989.

### Cambodia **elections** to go ahead despite violence.

PHNOM PENH (R) - Cambodian elections will go ahead Sunday despite continuing violence that killed at least four people overnight, the head of the U.N. peacekeepers said Saturday.

"We will hold elections in all provinces of Cambodia." Yasushi

Akashi, the Japanese diplomat who has led the 22,000-strong U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) since it was deployed in March, 1992, told a news conference. Two Chinese U.N. peacekeeping soldiers were killed and four

wounded during an overnight battle hetween Khmer Rouge guerrillas and Phnom Penh government forces in southeastern Cambodia, U.N. sources said Saturday.

A U.N. military observer contacted in the town of Kompong Cham said the peacekeepers were killed at their base in Skoun, 80

kilometres north of the capital as the rival factions elashed at mid-Xinhua, the state news agency of China, a country which faithfully backed the Khmer Rouge for 13 years, said the men were

killed by artillery shells. Several engineers were wounded, it Peking condemned the artillery attack that killed the two

Chinese. "Two Chinese engineers were killed and four others were wounded," a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed in a statement released by Xinhua.

"We strongly condemn this se-rious act of violence," the spokesman said. "The Chinese side has asked

the U.N. Transitional 'Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to investigate the case and take effective measures to ensure the personal safety of the Chinese engineers on peacekeeping mis-sions," the spokesman added. "We solemnly demand that all

forces concerned in Cambodia immediately stop attacking U.N. peacekeeping personnel, includ-ing the Chinese engineers."

A government policeman was shot dead late Friday night and two were injured when their post was attacked in Kratie provincenorthwest of Phnom Penh, UN-TAC reported. It said a headquarters of the Royalist Party was and injuring another in the same

province. Mr. Akashi admitted that UN-TAC had been unable to create a neutral political environment in Cambodia for the elections, as called for iu the all-faction Paris peace agreement of October, 1991, which set out the terms for the election and proposed the

peacekeeping force. "I am confident we have the minimal acceptable conditions for free and fair elections, not the maximum, far from it," he said. Mr. Akashi said parts of each

province would be participating in the elections, but people in three or four districts would be unable to vote because of vio-

People living in zones under the control of the Khmer Rouge will not be able to vote. The radical guerrilla group killed a million people through execution, starvation, disease and forced labour when it ran the country from 1975 to 1979. Votes will be cast in about 80

per cent of Cambodian territory, Mr. Akashi said. He hoped 80 per cent of the 4.76 million registered voters would be able to

Mr. Akashi said the greatest obstacle faced by UNTAC was the Khmer Rouge's military threat. The group withdrew from the election calling it a tool to legitimise the rule of Premier Hun Sen's Phnom Penh government, installed by the Vietnamese after they ousted the

He said newly-equipped Khmer Rouge fighters were now roving the countryside in bands of between 200 and 400. A year ago such groups comprised only a dozen or so guerrillas.

presented the only problem.
"Acts of political violence, intimidation and harassment have been more numerous than we would like," Mr. Akashi said

"Many of such acts have been related to SOC and CPP, but not exclusively so.

Penh government and its ruling political organisation is the Cambodia People's Party (CPP).

Meanwhile Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk returned to his country on the eve

Wrong number

DARMSTADT, Germany (AFP) - A 79-year-old Dame stadt pensioner used to getting just the occasional phone call from friends or relatives was asto-nished to be bombaided day and night by female callets adjusting about sex, police reported. His number was mistakenty printed in an advert in a sex magazine offering a hothine for lesbian lovery

#### French school hostage drama to be made into a film

PARIS (R) — A film called Human Bomh is to be made of the French school hostage diama last week in which a guantum held toddlers and their teacher captive until he was shot dead by police. French newspapers reported Script author Gilles Cahoreau told the newspaper France-Son he wrote the scenario of Human Bomb during the 46-hour siege of the Commandant Charcot Nursery School in the Paris suburb of Neuilly. "I wanted to work on a police film when I heard about this incident. So I wrote the script as it was happening. he said. Human Bomb is what the hooded gunman. Eric Schmitt. 42, called himself. He was armed with 21 sticks of dynamic and held his captives at gunpoint in their classroom. He initially took 21 children and their teacher hostage. He released 15 of the toddlers in exchange for money but still had six children in the classroom with him when he was killed by police last Saturday. An announcement in the trade magazine Le Film Français said the production company Les Films En Hiver would shoot Human Bomb in August, It said Franck Landron would direct the film. starring actress Elsa Zylberstein as schoolmistress Laurence Dreyfus, widely acclaimed as a hero of the siege. Schmitt will he played by Bernard Ballet

#### Swedish party seeks sexual equality

HUDIKSVALL, Sweden (R) — Sweden's small Environmental Party, which also wants an equal distribution of power between men and women, has voted to promote sexual equality in its own leadership. But a party congress at Hudiksvall in northern Sweden turned down an attempt to make the 50-50 rule obligatory, on the grounds that there might not be enough women candidates for top party jobs. Spokeswontan Marianne Samuelsson said: "But the aim is clear. The Environmental Party is a pioneer when it comes to quotas on the hasis of sex and this is a step in the right direction." The party, who fell clow the four ner threshold for seats in parliament at the last general election in 1991, is now campaigning on a platform based on environmental concern and opposition to the European Community.

#### Australia plans to outlaw child sex tours

CANBERRA (AP) - The government promised Friday to outlaw Australians from taking part in child sex tours in Asia but admitted there may be legal problems in trying to prosecute offen-ders. Justice Minister Duncan Kerr said parliament regarded the tours as "terrible." "We (will) do all we sensibly can to try. to hring this to an end," Mr. Kerr said. The government plans to ban the organising and advertis-ing of child sex tours for Australians. It also wants to prosecute Australians who sexually abuse children in other countries. Some tour operators organisc groups put together for the purpose of seeking sex with young prosti-tutes in places like Thailand and the Philippines. The Australian Federal Police are monitoring Australians on Asian sex tours, Mr. Kerr said. However, there could be problems prosecuting Australians for crimes committed overseas, except for war crimes, hijacking or torture which are covered by special laws. Mr. Kerr also said the government plans to assist countries where sexual exploitation of children is rife, to crack down on the child sex tourist trade. Australia's action came after a series of newspaper articles which exposed the extent and nature of child sex touts in Asia.

#### Thai 'Robin Hood' surrenders

BANGKOK (R) - A That man who said he stole from the rich only to give to the poor has surrendered to police after his wife and a friend were arrested, The Nation newspaper said. The self-styled Robin Flood told the nation he had donated hundreds of dollars and tonnes of rice to rural temples and distributed money to impoverished villagers after stealing from wealthy households around Thailand. He had been planning to steal an additional \$3,000 to open a snooker club when his wife and friend were jailed, the newspaper

#### after the Chernobyl disaster. Ecologists in Ukraine renewed calls for the closure of the counblaze under conttol. try's network of five nuclear pow-Local radio and television er stations. There was no radiation leak and no substantial damage." Nur

Ukraine nuclear incident

Ignatullin, first deputy director of Ukraine's Nuclear Power Directorate, said by telephone. "From the standpoint of emotion, this will make it more difficult to persuade parliament to expand nuclear capacity. But in real terms, this sort of incident

could have occurred at any thermal station." Officials at the Zaporizha Station. 600 kilometres southeast of Kiev, said the explosion and fire were caused by sparks from a

people were killed near Johan-

nesburg Saturday when hostel

dwellers opened fire on pro-ANC

marchers and angry blacks

attacked white security guards.

Reuters Television cameraman

Leon Malherbe said police told

him the whites were killed after

killing two.

'will bolster opposition' A second workman remained in hospital with serious hurns, but officials said he was probably out

of danger. The station's chief engineer. Taras Plokhiv, said by telephone that the fire was extinguised within 10 minutes outside the plant's fifth reactor, which was undergoing scheduled maintenance.

Officials contacted immediately after the accident said firefighters took two hours to bring the

broadcast news of the incident soon after it occurred. Officials reported a "minor panic" as residents of Zaporizha, a city of 900.000 some 50 kilometres away, jammed switchboards in search of more information.

But the Ukrinform News Agency and national radio gave a brief account only Saturday morning - probably more a reflection of the sluggish nature of the Ukrainian media than a deliberate attempt to withhold information.

welder's torch igniting with leak- lear plants and provides 14 per

tel violence.

most modern of Ukraine's nuc-

ing hydrogen from a cooling pipe. cent of the country's electricity. 4 blacks, 2 whites killed

"The man was trying to shoot at police." said Mr. Ngwenya.

adding that police fired teargas

and birdshot to try to disperse.

groups of angry youths gathering in Thokoza and the march, to air

labour grievances, was breaking

they have occupied since fighting started again late last year. The MPLA said it was ready to sign the Abidian peace package. in S. African township drawn up by observers from Portugal. Russia and the United JOHANNESBURG (R) - Six ANC member armed with an States, as it stood, UNITA re-AK-47 assault rifle after the hos-

fused. The United Nations helped bring about a peace agreement in 1991 to end 16 years of civil war

collapse; war continues ABIDJAN (R) — Marathon after rejecting its defeat in U.N.-Angolan peace talks have col- supervised elections last Septem-

Angolan peace talks

Senior MPLA delegate General Higino Carneiro said it was difficult to say if there would he a resumption of fighting. He said the government would continue to fight to defend its institutions

and the Angolan people. "The solution to Angola will not be war but the government is not going to fold its arms." he

UNITA's chief negotiator Jorge Valentim repeated the rebel movement's position that the U.N. should send peacekeeping troops to the southern African

sify our efforts to try to get the "The situation is a complex one," he said. "For a ceasefire you need the United Nations, you There was no indication if or need blue helmers.

Ms. Anstee was due to leave the Tvorian capital Abidian for New York later Friday night, and government negotiators were planning to return to Luanda at | ceremony broadcast to 175 nathe weekend. It was not clear when UNITA delegates would leave.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said early this week the Abidjan talks should end Friday. Diplomats said last week he was likely to advise the Security Council not to renew the U.N.'s observer role in Angola beyond the end of this month unless the talks made significant progress.

President Bill Clinton Wednesday announced U.S. recognition of the formerly-marxist MPLA, in the former Portuguese colony but UNITA took up arms again support for UNITA:

# Cuban epidemic appears

urged police to try to arrest those

responsible for the killings.
"We call on everyone involved to try to prevent further bloodshed and urge the police to take immediate action to prevent further shooting from the hos-tel," Mr. Niehaus told Reuter, news conference.

specialists at the conference said up to 26.000 people on the Communist-ruled Caribbean island were suffering from the disease, described as an "epidemic neuropathy.' The epidemic, which has hit

Cuba while it is in the grips of a severe economic recession, attacks the body's nervous system, either disrupting the eyesight or affecting the sense of feeling or touch in limbs,

were working with foreign specialists brought in by the World Health Organisation to try to track down the exact cause of the disease, which was still unknown.

can't give an explanation or an overall theory," he said. The Cuban and foreign specialists have been following three main lines of investigation. First-

by a toxin and thirdly that it may be the result of a virus. "There's nothing definitive yet. There are many question marks,"

Dr. Gomez said. A top U.S. virus expert and U.S. Nobel laureate in medicine, Dr. Carleton Gajdusek, who

HAVANA (R). - A mystery spent two days in Cuba studying the epidemic, said Wednesday it was nothing like anything he had ever heard of or seen before.

cases, saying this was unpre-cedented in the medical history for this kind of disease.

As a preventive measure.

Dr. Gomez said the majority of those affected were responding well to intensive treatment with Vitamins and other therapies.

Within the overall tendency towards a decrease, cases feature ing disruption to eyesight had fallen off, while there was an increase in the so-called peripheral form of the disease, which affects the limbs.

Foreign specialists have so far concurred with assertions by Cuban doctors that the epidemic eannot be exclusively blamed on nutrition levels in Cuba, which have fallen because of widespread shortages of Vitamin-rich foods like meat. eggs and wheatflour products.

The Cuhan experts said nutrition deficiencies could have a role in the development of the disease, but scientists were still actively looking at the possibility that a toxin or virus was behind it.

### Venezuela leader süspended; acting president takes over CARACAS (R) — Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez of the nation's flag, was placed

was suspended from his post and ordered to stand trial on corruption charges, the first time a president has been impeached in nearly four decades of democratic

Senators voted unanimously to

ratify a Supreme Court ruling Thursday that there was enough evidence to try the unpopular Perez, survivor of coup attempts and political bids to oust him, on charges of embezzlement and misuse of public funds. "This is a significant blow

against corruption," Congress Vice President Felipe Montilla told senators. Octavio Lepage, the president

of Congress who has devoted balf a century to politics with the ruling Democratie Action Party. was swom in as acting president of this oil-exporting nation while lawmakers applauded. 'I am sure (the people) will accept me," Mr. Lepage said.

"My name is a clean name. Nobody can point out any stain." Mr. Lepage, a Perez leadership rival before 1988 elections, said he would honour all of Venezuela's foreign commitments and had not yet considered whether

around Mr. Lepage as a military band broke into the national anthem. The sash had to be altered to fit Mr. Lepage's diminutive frame.

"The president of the republic is suspended of his duties," said the motion that senators voted to

Ourside the presidential palace, about 500 demonstrators shouting the name of Lieutenant Colonel Hugo Chavez, leader of the February 1992 coup attempt, clashed with police and left when they were fired upon with teargas and plastic pellets.

Another 400 protesters gathered outside of Congress sbouting "corrupt, corrupt" as legislators sought to leave the The vice-president of the ruling

party, Paulina Gamus, was roughed up by the crowd, and she broke away in tears. Police dispersed the crowd with

tear-gas. Mr. Lepage, 69, who was elected president of Congress in February for the second time, is a ruling party senator from his home state of Anzoategui on Venezuela's eastern Caribbean

Khmer Rouge in an invasion.

But the Khmer Rouge have not

The State of Cambodia (SOC) is the formal name of the Phnom

of Sunday's national elections and said he supported the polls even though be viewed them as

#### heing attacked by a 200-strong mob from phola Park squatter He said peace monitors and camp following the shootings of police who were escorning the four blacks, one hy police, in march lost control when marchers nearby Thokoza township. tried to force back a small group A third white security guard of Zulu-speaking protesters through the hostel gates. ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus was injured in the attack.

Chechnya moves to mend

workers at a hostel on the route through Thokoza. Reuter photographer Juda Ngwenya said police shot dead an

Witnesses said the Thokoza

violence erupted after pro-ANC

marchers, many armed with

spears and clubs, began trading

insults with mainly Zulu-speaking

relations with Moscow MOSCOW (R) -- Russia's rebel Chechnya region, which declared independence 18 months ago. took a step towards normalising its severed relations with Moscow

hy restoring hanking links. ITAR-TASS News Agency reported Saturday. But it was not clear whether a new "Popular Trust" cahinet. formed this month by opponents of President Dzhokhar Dudayev amidst growing unrest in the oilproducing territory, could implement the move. Mr. Dudavev has

kept his own cabinet and army. When Mr. Dudayev. a former Soviet Air Force general, took power in September 1991, he announced that the department of Russia's Central Bank which' had paid pensions and salaries to Chechnya was henceforth to become the Chechen National

In retaliation. Russia stopped allocating cash to it. Although most Chechens support the idea of independence, popular opposition to Mr. Dudayev's rule has escalated sharply since local payments of wages and pensions virtually stopped. The Popular Trust calinet has now decided to restan the Russian Central Bank's branch in Chechnya, enabling Moscow to

transfer cash again to the capital. TASS said a local commercial bank would now do the joh of accepting transfers. In a separate development. Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said Friday that some former Soviet republics have expressed interest in becoming part

of Russia, the Interfax News Agency reported. The agency also quoted Vice Premier Alexander Shokhin as saying that one of those states was Tajikistan, which he said made inquiries about six months ago in the midst of its bloody civil war. The Central Asian nation is among the poorest former repub-

"Some republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) are beginning today to request the government of the Russian Federatioo to include them in its composition," Mr. Cher-

# to be falling off — doctors

epidemic of a nervous disease that has swept across Cuoa. affecting up to 26,000 people, appears to be decreasing slightly in its intensity. Cuban doctors

"The epidemic is showing a tendency to decrease as a whole...only a little, but decreasing," Dr. Raul Gomez Cabrera, director of the Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital in Havana, told a

Dr. Gomez and other Cuban

Dr. Gomez said Cuban experts

"It's like a jig-saw puzzle. If you don't have all the pieces, you

ly, that the disease is nutritionrelated, secondly that it is caused

Other foreign experts also ex-

pressed surprise at the number of

"It's certainly a staggering scale." Dr. Alfredo Sadun. an eye neurologist working for the private U.S. eve care organisation Orbis, told reporters Thurs-

Cuba's health authorities have been distributing a Vitamin supplement containing Vitamin B Complex to the island's entire population of nearly 11 million people. The nation was spending 17 million to import the extra Vitamins, officials said.

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### Rockets, Supersonics battle in deciding semifinal

SEATTLE (AP) - It's a tale of two cities.

When the Seattle Supersonics and the Houston Rockets finally settle their Western Conference semifinal series, the deciding factor may be the homecourt advantage. Neither team has been able to win on the road.

The Rockets sent the series back to the Seattle Coliseum for the winner-take-all game with a 103-90 victory Thursday night. "I'll tell you, it's going to be different," Seattle's Shawn Kemp promised. "Much different." "It's a crazy series," said Otis

Thorpe of Houston. The Rockets captured games 3, 4 and 6 in Houston by 18, 11 and 13 points. Seattle won games 1, 2 and 5 at home by 9, 11 and 25 points.

Except for geography, there isn't much separating the clubs, each of whom won 55 regularseason games. The Sonics earned the homecourt advantage by beating Houston three out of four times during the regular season. In this series, the Sonics are averaging 98.5 points and 41 re-

bounds to Houston's 98.0 points and 40.5 rebounds. Houston, with shot-blocking wizard Hakeem Olajuwon of Nigeria at centre, is averaging 6.5 blocks to the Soncis' 4.1, but the Sonics are turning the ball over less than the Rockets — 13.8 to

In game 6, Houston's Kenny Smith scored 30 points on 13-of-16 shooting, and he missed his first two shots. But until then, Smith hadn't been a major factor

in the series, averaging 14.5 points. "This series has taken on a pattern," Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "We have to

change it." Riley avoids firing verbal volleys at Bulls: Pat Riley knows that Michael Jordan called the New Aup, but that hasn't affected them



Bulls' Horace Grant sinks in a slam dunk

ripe for the Chicago Bulls' taking. He's not about to fire the same volley in the other direction.

Injuries to Horace Grant, John Paxson and Bill Cartwright have raised questions about whether the Bulis are vulnerable in the Eastern Conference finals, although the two-time defending NBA champions are undefeated in seven playoff games this year.

They might be a little banged York Knicks a flawed team that is yet," the knicks coach said FriEwing and John Starks are contained.

"Michael has a right to say that." Riley said. "He's the man on the throne. He's pre-eminent right now in the NBA. He's right that we bave some weakness. We

also have some strengths." Recent history has shown that championship teams have needed a few years of failure in the conference finals before going on to win titles. Detroit's nemesis was Boston before the Pistons won twice, and Chicago had to break through against Detroit be-fore the Bulls were successful the last two years.

"Sometimes you do have to pay your dues in this league. But we hope to get past that," Riley said. "It's a state of mind. Starting last year we thought we had the talent to win. We have the opportunity to do it now."

Point guard Doc-Rivers said Jordan's comments weren't offensive to the Knicks.

"Every team is flawed." Rivers said. "If there was a team that wasn't flawed, it would go 82-0 and win the championship every year. The secret to winning is finding the other team's flaws and exploit them.

Rivers, a 10-year veteran wbo has never before been to a conference final, said he saw the series, which starts Sunday at Madison Square Garden, as "an awesome opportunity. I didn't

think I'd ever be in this sitution." Meanwhile, Grant, who injured his right ankle in the Bulls' first game against Cleveland, practiced for the first time since the injury, although be has not

missed a playoff game.
"Horace will play," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "He worked gingerly, but we'll work him more Saturday."

Cartwright and Paxson both offended by Jordan's comments are recovering from knee probthis week that the Knicks can be lems that hampered them beaten if leading scorers Patrick throughout the regular season.

### World Cup qualifying matches

## Yemen score late equaliser to hold Jordan to 1-1 draw

Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN SATURDAY drew 1-1 with Yemen in the opening match of the Asian group A World Cup qualifying matches held at Al Hassan Sports City Stadium in Irbid.

The match was attended by

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein, deputising for His Majesty the King. Also attending was Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidat and over 12,000 fans.

Although both teams seemed tense and played a slow unimpressive game in the first half, Jordan had an upper hand throughout the match as strikers Jiryes Tadros and Aref Hussein mounted repeated attacks hoping to score an eargoal. However, Yemeni goalkeeper Ameen Sunaini successfully aborted all such attempts as the first half ended scoreless.

Jordan's captain Jamal Abu Abed had two definite scoring chances, as be got a pass just inside the penalty box, and later again failed to score from a corner kick that the Yemeni team's star Suneini totally con-

Yemen accelerated their pace in the second half but were stunned by a spectacular 65th minute goal when Jor-dan's Subhi Suleiman faked a pass and biasted a powerful

Jiryes Tadros attempts to break Yemeni defense in Saturday's match between Jordanian and Yemeni national teams the game and just as Jordan's players thought they had sea-

LULLILLIANET

shot from well outside the penalty box. Both teams lost the efforts of a player each, as Yemen's Sharaf Mahfouz and Jordan's Mohammad Al Khaz'ali goi red-card bookings.

The Jordanian team continued to dominate but lost the opportunity to capitalise on two chances by Hisham Abdul Mun'em, one from a 30 metre distance in the 77th minute and the other four minutes later that hit the post.

led a victory. Yemen got a corner kick which Wijdan Shazli converted to an equalising goal by a header in the 89th

Jordan: Ahmad Abu Nasouh. Yousef Al Amouri, Hisham Abdul Mun'em, Mohannad Mahadia. Jamal Abu Abed. Jirves Tadros, Firas Khalaileh. Subhi Suielman (Mousa

Awad), Mnrad Al Horanl, Aref Hussein, Mohammad Al Kha-

Yemen: Ameen Suneini, Khuled Afarah, Saleh Ben Rabi'a, Abu All Ghaleb, Abdul Rabman Sa'eed, Jamal Nadeem, Abdullah Khorbi (Ibrabim Sbuhil, Isam Dreiban, Sharaf Mahfouz, Wi-jdan Shazli, Abdallah Sana'ani (Ahmad Albred).

Referee: Abdul Aziz Al Mulla (United Arab Emirates)

#### **SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Wright faces X-rays ahead of World Cup qualifiers

LONDON (R) - Arsenal striker Ian Wright faces X-rays on his damaged ankle this weekend ahead of England's important World Cup matches against Poland and Norway. Wright was injured after a challenge by Sheffield Wednesday's Paul Warhurst during Arsenal's dramatic 2-1 F.A. Cup final replay win Thursday. Wright, who missed the last two England qualifiers against San Marino and the Netherlands because of injury, finished the league season playing with a broken toe. Meanwhile, both he and Sheffield Wednesday striker Mark Bright could face a Football Association probe into their behaviour during Thursday's replay. The F.A. received complaints from members of the public angry at seeing Bright elbow Arsenal's match winner Andy Linighan in the face and Wright mouth obscenities at a linesman.

#### Roma rescued from bankruptcy threat

ROME (R) — The threat of bankruptcy was lifted from Italian Cup finalists AS Roma Friday when two businessmen agreed to take over the debt-ridden club. The first division club said in a statement that industrialists Pietro Mezzaroma and Franco Sensi, both associated with Roma in the past, had signed a preliminary agreement to assume the majority sharebolding from the Italfin 80 company. Italfin 80 is the flagship of outgoing president Giuseppe Ciarrapico, currently in prison in Milan after his arrest on corruption charges last week. No figures were released for the transaction. Roma are reported to have total debts of arounds \$45

#### GOREN BRIDGE

book is not for the casual player. However, it is guaranteed to sharp-

en the competitive bidding of any-one who takes the trouble to read

and digest the cootents.

Cohen cites bundreds of hands

from all levels of play to support the accuracy of the LAW (author's capitals). For example, consider this hand from the 1978 World Pairs.

The eventual winners, Marcelo Branco and Gabino Cintra of Brazil

bid to four spades and, after the lead

of the ace of hearts, should have been defeated one trick. They weren't, but that's immaterial.

Should South have gone on to four spades? The LAW says no—he

should have doubled four hearts in-

stead! North was likely to hold three

stead: North was nkey to hold three spades and one heart; thus each side had eight trumps in their combined holding, making a combined total of 16 trumps. If only 16 tricks were available, and if North-South were destined to take 10 in spades, four

bearts was going down four tricks! A double would have paid off without

the risk of trying for game. As the cards lie, North-South can be held

to nine tricks and East-West to sev-

en, and with a total of 16 tricks available on the deal, can anyone

really question the validity of the LAW?

WITH OMAR SHARIF

THE LAW OF TOTAL TRICKS simply: "The total number of tricks available on any deal is equal to the total number of trumps (of each side's best combined fit!." This

NORTH ♥ 5 ○ K 10 9 7 WEST EAST # J 10 5 3 ? A 9 8 4 2 ? A Q # 9 3 53 ±9 42 ⊽ K Q J ○ 65432 ± Q J 62 SOUTH A K Q 8 6 7 10 7 6 3 # A 10

The bidding: South West North East 2 + 4 ? 2 + Pass Opening lead: Ace of 😲 About 25 years ago Jean Rene Vernes wrote an article called "The Law of Total Tricks." It attracted little attention then and, despite

overwhelming proof of its accuracy, there are still many doubters. However, an excellent book on the subject is now on the market. To Bid or Not to Bid: The LAW of Total Tricks by Larry Cohen (Platinum Press, 272 pp., paperback. Available from the author, 181 Longhill Rd., Bldg. 1-6, Little Falls, N.J. 07424. \$11.95 plus \$2.50 pnstage and handling).

The LAW of Total Tricks states

#### Record number in golf competition

"They've played extremely

well in the playoffs and their

offensive effort has been vintage.

vulnerable, even during the sea-

son when we beat them three

times. I have too much respect

for guys wearing championships rings to think of them as vulnerable."

Riley also professed not to be

never thought of them as

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Pakistani Ambassador Tariq Afridi Friday hosted an annual golf competition for members of the Bisharat Golf Club. The event, which attracted a record number of players, was keenly contested and the overall handicap winner was Mr. M.S. Park of Korea, with Mr. Adnan Tabaqchali close behind and Mr. Dick Lockyer third. The best gross score of the day was achieved by the club captain, Mr. Hanafi Abu Al Hawa. Several international players based in Jordan took part in the

#### Russia to go for broke against Greece

MOSCOW (R) — Russia will play an all-out attacking game against Greece in their World Cup qualifier Sunday, knowing victory would practically guarantee them a trip to the finals in the United States next year. Lev Zakharovich, international secretary sian Soccer rederation, said the unchanged from the one which swept aside Hungary 3-0 last month. Russia have a maximum eight points from four games in group five, just one bebind the Greeks who have played one match more. Third-placed Hungary have just three points.

#### Tyson wants someone to care for his birds

KINGSTON (AP) - Former beavyweight champion Mike Tyson wants someone to care for his beloved pigeons while he serves a 6-year sentence in Indiana for rape. Tyson first became interested in the birds as a youngster in Brooklyn. His fascination continued when be moved in with the late trainer Cus D'Amato at his Catskill Mountain home. Tyson still keeps 150 homing pigeons in Catskill, and that's becoming a problem, according to Tyson's friend Jay Bright. Bright said he is searching for someone who won't mind cleaning the two-story coop and feeding and watering the pigeons. Bright said Tyson needs someone who will care for the birds, and continue their training. The job pays \$200 a month, and about 25 people have already applied.

#### Flying filly Nicer wins Irlsh 1,000 Guineas

DUBLIN (R) — The flying British filly Nicer, trained by Barry Hills and ridden by his son Michael, ran out a decisive winner of the Irish 1,000 Guineas Saturday.

### Prost on pole for **Monaco Grand Prix**

MONTE CARLO (R) - Alain Prost claimed his sixth successive pole position this season and the 26th of his career Saturday when he set the pace in final qualifying for Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix.

Prost, who leads the World Drivers' Championship by two points from great rival Ayrton Senna, dominated the session in his

He was out on the circuit early in the hour-long period and quickly worked his way down to a fastest time of one minute 20.557 seconds at an average speed of 148.725 kph.

This remained unehallenged, his nearest rival being German

Michael Schumacher in a Benetton. He claimed a share of the front row with the second best time of 1:21.190 in his Ford-powered B193B, using traction control for the first time this weekend.

Senna, who had a minor accident at the chicane, was third-fastest in his McLarenand will share the second row with Briton Damon Hill in the second Williams.

Senna touched the barriers at the entry to the chicane and locked up under braking as he half-spun to a halt in an escape lane. Senna was left to sit out the rest of the session on a nearby park bench. Hill, who had provisional pole from Thursday's wet opening session, was never able to mount a serious threat to Prost or Senna despite making a big effort in the second half of the session.

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#### Marseille to face match-fixing inquiry PARIS (R) — The French Soccer nes defender Jacques Glassmann who said he had a phone conversation Wednesday with a

League said Saturday an inquiry would be held into an allegation that champions Marseille attemp-ted to fix Thursday's match with Valenciennes. A league spokesman said an

investigation would start when it had received details of an official protest by Valenciennes.

The allegation, strongly denied by European Cup finalists Marseille, came from Valencien-

Marseille official who offered him a bribe to take it easy in the match the following day.

League President Noel Le Graet told the sports daily L'Equipe he would take personal charge of the inquiry but said it would not open until after Wednesday's European Cup final destabilise them before the Euro-

to avoid harming Marseille's preparations for the Munich match with AC Milan, Marseille won the match 1-0,

virtually scaling the title, while

the defeat left Valenciennes in serious relegation trouble. Valenciennes lodged a protest with the match referec, The French League leaders said the move was an attempt to

Le Graet said it would be wise not to draw hasty conclusions and that he found it strange that such allegations should emerge just before a European Cup final,

pean Cup final.

"All this is nothing but a tissue of inventions." Marseille Vice-President Jean-Louis Levreau said Friday. "It's an attempt to unsettle Marseille at an important

### Mansell says he lost \$20 million by leaving F-1

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — World driving champion Nigel Mansell Friday estimated "conservatively" that be had lost \$20 million by coming to the United States to

"There are more things in life than money," said Mansell, who will compete in his first Indianapolis 500-mile race May 30. "If you're not honourable to your-

self, you can't live with yourself." Mansell won nine races and the title in 1992 in a Williams F-1 car powered by a French-built Renault engine. Mansell said it was on record that for 15 years it has been the French desire to win the World Championship with a French driver.

So, Alain Prost, who sat out last season, was the driver the team wanted as number one. "Prost was controlling it,"
Mansell explained. "I don't want

to work for anybody who wants to control you. "Ayrton (Senna), Prost, (Nelson) Piquet, (Nikki) Lauda all are

great drivers on the track. It's how they operate off the track." "I detest shenanigans. It seems

most world championships can be bought. Alain was getting the best seat in Formula One after being sacked."



a practice run for the 77th Indianapolis 500 to be held May 30 (AFP

Mansell said he was turned off by the F-I politics.

"I won 14 races in two years and the world championship," he said, "and then got blown out of the water again. It was political. The 39-year-old Englishman said he had been looking into

Indycar racing for the past 2½ years after he left Ferrari in 1990. Mansell said qualifying at Indy only days after undergoing back surgery was the toughest thing he'd ever done. On his second attempt, he earned a starting spot in the middle of the third row.

He suffered the injury when he crashed during practice for the Phoenix 200, his first attempt to race on an oval track.

"When I look back on it. I've

got to be reasonably kind to myself," he said about his qual-ification run. "This is (teammate) Mario Andretti's 28th Indy. If I had started and tested and tested, my back never would have made

After qualifying, Mansell re-turned to his home in Clearwater, Flordia, and resumed therapy for his back. This included ice packs. hot blankets, ultrasound, massage, swimming and long walks.

"I can get in and out of the car now," he said. "I think because I'm a little older, this is the worst accident I've had."

Mansell, who drives for the Newman-Haas team, turned a lap at 224.215 mph (360.83 kph) Fri-

attention to speeds of other drive ers. Only eight this year have "You can do what the car can

do," he said. "My satisfaction comes in doing the best I can do on that day.

He said he has learned that lift

and said he isn't paying much

Indy the weather can change hour hy hour and another "hage change" occurs from one set inf

tyres to the next. "Keeping it flat down is an exercise I haven't accomplished

vet," he said about pushing on the throttle. No other driver has claimed let have done that either this May,

Mansell intends to practise al the Indianapolis Motor speedway then return home for additional therapy. He'll be hack at the track for carburetion day practice next Thursday.

"I'm not even going to facus on the race until next Thursday, Friday or Saturday," he said, "I'm astonished I'm in the (Indycar) points lead. Not being pessimistic, but I won't be in the points lead after this race: I'm heing realistic."

"Winning this one would be unbelievable.

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### ICRC assails U.N. over Afghan conflict

GENEVA. (AP) — A senior Red Hekmatyar. Cross official has criticised the The warring United Nations for doing too little to stop the carnage in Afghanistan and predicted that a new ccasefire agreement would have little impact. Je an-Michel Monod, head of

Asiam operations at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said the level of misery in the capital Kabul was "intolerable."

He said more than 4,500 civilians had been injured and an estimated I,000 people killed in Kabul over the past 10 days.

"This indiscriminate shelling is hitting everywhere in the city. he told a news conference. "All àreas have been hit. All hospitals bave been bit. Everybody is shooting at everybody else, with devastating results.

Mr. Monod said the fighting the worst since the ouster of President Najibullah in April 1992 — was meant to strengthen bargaioing positions at peace

talks among the rebel factions. The talks in the eastern city of Jalalabad ended Thursday with agreement on a ceasefire and a new cabinet. Defence Minister Abmad Shah Masoud - the rival of Prime Minister-designate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar — agreed to stand down. The fighting in Kabul has pitted Mr. Masoud's forces against those loyal to Mr.

The warring factions continued to shell Kabul even after announcing the ceasefire.

Mr. Monod said the Jalalabad agreement was likely to have the same effect as previous accords oegotiated in neighbouring Pakis-

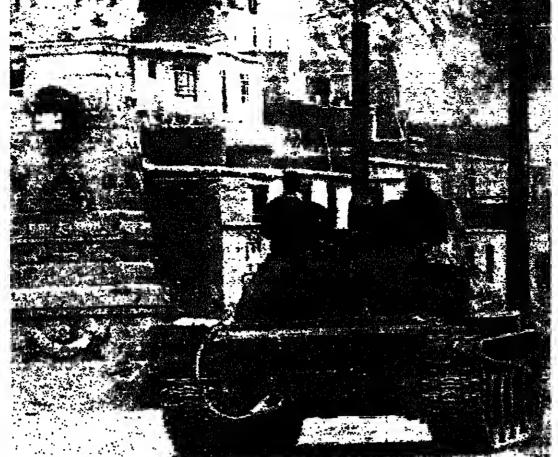
"It will temporarily bring some quiet to Kabul, but it certainly won't have a long-lasting effect.

He said the United Nations had done too little to support regional peace ioitiatives to stop the factional fighting since the end of communist rule.

"It's good the regional powers - Pakistan, Iran and Saudi Arabia — are trying to push the protagonists in the direction of a lasting ceasefire bot they need be said.

help," be said.
U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Gbali has proposed that the United States and Russia should join in a grouping called "Friends of Afghanistan" to try to end the fighting. However, Mr. Monod said no action bad so far been

Security concerns prompted the United Nations to withdraw its expatriate staff from Kabul last August. Most foreign embassies are closed and virtually all aid agencies bave pulled out. International appeals for funds to help victims of the civil war have



Soldiers manning a Defence Ministry tank look on as a rocket Saturday hits a residential area in

received practically no response. The ICRC, which traditionally operates in areas of armed conflict, is now responsible for nearly all the relief efforts in Kahul. It two of the capital's five remaining but no signs yet of starvation. bospitals. It sends in 30 tonnes of food every week by road from Pakistan.

Mr. Monod said there was no has 15 Swiss staff there and runs power or water and little food,

"The ICRC is roughly the last organisation present." Mr. Monod said. "We feel a little bit lonesome in Kabul these days."

Russian

Regime's jet bombs Kabul 'by mistake'

KABUL (Agencies) — A gov-ernment plane bombed a residential neighbourhood by mistake Saturday, killiog a 14-year-old girl and injuriog eight other peo-ple, officials and residents said.

The aircraft dropped four bombs on the poor neighbourhood of Formulia in south central Kabul, destroying a clay brick house. Three more bombs were dropped on a oeareby vacant lot.

"I was so afraid. It was such a loud explosion," said Abdul Aziz, a butcher whose house next door was damaged. His neighbour's 14-year-old daughter was killed and a 10-

year-old son's arm was ripped off by shrapnel, Mr. Aziz said. The Defence Ministry said the bombing was a mistake and the

pilot was under investigation. The plane's target was apparently positions on the other side of the moontain on which Formulia is located. Often the

planes, flying very bigh to elude anti-aircraft guns, miss their At least 500 people bave been

killed and more than 5,000 injured io Kabul during the last two weeks in a fratricidal war for control of the Defence Ministry. Almost all the civilian victims have been killed by rockets fired by militias in the southern suburbs of Kabul or in the overlook-

The government halted air strikes on positions of the radical Hezb-c-Islami party after Saurday's bombing, but rocket and artillery fire continued to pound

the city.
Weeping women tore their hair while men dug through rubble in the old city to find people who might be still buried.

One man returned from hospital with his year-old son, the baby's head bandaged after he was hart when his home collapsed.

Government jets have made dozens of raids against Hezb-e-Islami and its Sbi'ite Hezb-e-Wahdat allies since artillery battles for control of the capital erupted 11 days ago.

The jet was trying to hit a Hezb-e-Islami post on a nearby bill. They are shelling the city from there," Defence Ministry spokesman Yunis Qanuny said. One bomb was mistakenly dropped on a residential area. He said an inquiry would be

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) says the capital's hospitals have treated an average of 500 injured every day-since this latest round of fighting

Between 80 and 100 rockers have rained on the capital daily in the last seven days, destroying houses in most parts of the city.

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Italy's scandal probe likely to last until 1995

ROME (R) - Investigations into the political bribery scandal

which has shaken Italy over the last 15 months are likely to go on

until 1995, Milan chief prosecutor Francesco Saverio Borrelli has

said. More help was needed to cope with a heavy and growing

workload on the city's investigating magistrates, he told RAI state

television Friday night. As he spoke, two former ministers were

being officially notified of suspected involvement in corruption,

judicial sources said. Both Oscar Mammi, a Republican ex-

minister of posts and telecommunications, and Vincenza Bono

Parrino, a Social Democratic former cultural beritage minister,

are suspected of having accepted bribes from government

suppliers. Mr. Mammi immediately resigned from the Chamber

of Deputies. Over 2,500 people, including more than 100

members of parliament, are under investigation in the scandal.

which has provoked widespread public disgust and contributed to

the runaway success of an electoral reform referendum last

month. "The old reluctance of the public to come forward has

vanished," said Mr. Borrelli. "We have lots of work in front of us

just to complete investigations and then the trials and legal

Indian army said equipped with new missile

NEW DELHI (R) - The Indian army has been equipped with a

locally-built surface-to-surface missile after more than five years

of tests, the Hindustan Times newspaper reported Saturday. The

Prithvi missile, which has a range of 250 kilometres and can carry

a payload of up to one tonoe, has been deployed in Punjab state on the border with Pakistan, with which india has fought three

wars, the newspaper said. Many of Pakistan's major cities and military installations would fall within the range of the missile, the

Hindustan Times said. Military officials refused to comment on

the report, but the Defence Ministry said in March that the

weapon system would be deployed in the army by the end of the year. Prithvi, which means "Earth" in the Hindi-language, was

first developed in 1988 and has been flight-tested at least nine

times. India has successfully tested an intermediate-range missile

with a range of 2,400 kilometres, but says the system is for sending

payloads into space and will not be used by the armed forces.

Canadian energy minister confers with Nazer

RIYADH (AP) - Oil Minister Hisham Nazer conferred Saturdy

with Canada's minister of energy, mines and resources, who is in

Saudi Arabia to promote business for Canadian companies in the oil-rich region. The official Saudi Press Agency said the two

ministers discussed bilateral ties, especially with relation to oil affairs, but gave no details. The Canadian, Bill McKnight, is

accompanied by a delegation of Canadian business representa-tives and will also be briefly visiting Kuwait and Yemen before

returning to Ottawa. "The businesses which are travelling with

me... are all bigh-tech companies which have been developing

trade contacts in this region," Mr. McKnight was quoted as saying by the Canadian embassy. The Canadian companies include

members of the petroleum processing and engineering, and mineral sectors, including Delta Catalytic. MacDonald Dettwiler

consequences will take several years more."

#### Britain's Queen Mother spends 2nd night in hospital

ABERDEEN, Scotland (AP)

The Oueen Mother spent a second right in the hospital Fire day following surgery to remove a piece of food which stuck in her throat. "She is still listed as comfortable and is resting, and she will be staying one more inch in hospital, and her condition will be assessed in the morning by her doctors," said Alan Reid, spekesman at Aberdeen Royal Julimary. The hospital was flooded with telephone calls and llowers from Britons concerned about the 92-year-old widow of King George VI and mother of Queen Elizabeth II. None of the toval family came to the hospital bitday. Prince Charles told reporters in London that his grandmother "is better, thank goodness

#### Rare print of U.S. **Declaration of** Independence sold

NEW YORK (R) - A late original print of the declaration of independence was sold privately Friday for an undisclosed price after failing to meets its mountum reserve price at an anction varlier in the day. The broadsheet, only one of two still in private hands. was purchased by a rate discuments dealer in New Jersey A spokeswoman said the purchase was made on behalf of an undisclosed client and she would not give the purchase page. The document was one of those printed by John Dunlap on the evening of July 4, 1776, to spread the word of Congress's action The private transaction was done shortly after bidding at a Sotheby's auction stopped at \$1.75 million, sumewhere below the reserve price. Sotheby's bail estimated the document would sell for between \$2 million to \$3 million. A manuscript with some of Abraham Lincoln's strongest indictments of slavery was more successful, selling at the same auction for \$992,500. The onepage manuscript in Lincoln's hand is part of a speech that has \$\mathbb{P}\$ been lost. Written around 1858, it says in part that "although volume upon volume is written to prove slavery a very good thing, we never hear of the man who being a slave himself."

#### Moon's shadow races over earth in partial eclipse

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Skywatchers from California and Alaska to Finland saw a partial eclipse of the sun Friday as the moon's shaduw passed over North America, the Aretic and northernmost Europe. The weather was perfect and we could see it really well," said astronom-er Juhani Harjunharja, who watched the moon obscure 39 per cent of the sun from Utsjoki Observatory in northern Fin-land's Lapland. 'It felt like the warm sunshine suddenly grew colder." The first solar eclipse visible from North America since Jan. 4, 1992, took place at sunrise along the west coast and later in the morning over more than half the continent. The moon's shadow then moved over the North Pole and into Norway, Sweilen, Scotland, Finland and Russia. North America's best views were in Alaska, where up to twn-thirds of the sun was blocked. "Oh, you've got to get a view through the scope — it's great." said Richard Pellessier, who watched from Earthquake Park in Anchorage as the eclipsed sun emerged from clouds. Bernadette Soter, 44, one of about two dozen people who watched the eclipse from the roof of Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles.

#### Ukrainian computer game simulates war with Russia

### Sudan warns against any bid to intervene in South

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sodan's Islamic fundamentalist government would seed buman waves against the guns of any army that tried to stop violence or provide safe areas in southern Sudan so that starving people can be fed, the foreign minister said.

-Intervention has been broached as a way of saving up to a million southern Sudanese facing possible death with international relief impeded by civil war and factional fighting among re-

Some have suggested a com-bination of two successful emergency relief operations of recent years.

One was the "safe haven" con-cept, which protected! Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq from that country's army in 1991-92. Elijah

FBI says blast

suspects' prints

found on seized

bomb elements

NEW YORK (Agencies)

days after the blast.

as aniline reagent.

close to the case.

.lab report.

reports.

sodium azide.

personal items

Salameh's trial.

that list.

Mr. Salameh's fingerprints

were also discovered on duct

rape, a glass beaker, a clear plas-tie bottle and other items in the

shed, according to the April 15

. The FBI investigation of the

Feb. 26 explosioo, in which six

people died and over 1,000 were

njured, was codenamed "Tradebom" in the confidential

Two fingerprints of a missing suspect, Ramzi Yousef, were also

found on a brown bottle of

Robert Precht, the lawyer for

Mr. Salameh, has said that his

relient rented the storage locker

but that it was being used to store

"He has never denied being

present in the storage facility and

has always said he was there in

connection with an activity he

believed to be completely inno-

The lawyer said that the activ-

On Tuesday, Reuters learned

that the FBI bad a list of 18

individuals whose fingerprints

they were trying to match up with evidence obtained in the bomb-

ing.
- Six suspects, including Mr.

Salameh and Mr. Yousef, are on

In another report, the FBI dis-

closed that investigators found

\$2,615 in U.S. currency and a

small amount of Jordanian and

Iraqi currency during their sear-

ity will be revealed at Mr.

cent," said Mr. Precht.

Malok, an official with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), suggested at a news conference in the Kenyan capital Nairobi Thursday that a similar zone should be created in southern Sudan.

The other is Operation Restore Hope, in which U.S.-led forces invaded Somalia last December and kept violence at bay long enough to save hundreds of

thousands of starving Somalis.

Donald Peterson, U.S. embassador to Sudan, last month told reporters in Nairobi that the international community would have to act if peace talks between

the government and rebels failed. "If there is no progress toward a negotiated settlement, the international community will have to consider what should be done to

the awful suffering," he said. Foreign Minister Hussein Suli-man Abu Salih alleged that the West, through its press and politicians, is waging a "stupid" cam-paign "to polarise world public opinion against Sudan for io-tervention" on humanitarian

grounds But he said those who talk aboot intervening in Sudan are dreaming.

They are misinformed on the Sudanese character and the nature of Islam in such matters," Mr. Ahu Salih said in a television interview Friday night. "There will be real jihad.

people fighting, not only a handful of soldiers or popular defence The junta, which took power in througa 1989 coup, already has had arm.

There will be wave after wave of

Muslim clerics declare the 10year-old southern rebellion a holy

Mr. Abu Salih said Sudan never gives io to pressure and cited its current argument with Egypt over Halaib, an enclave in Egypt's extreme southeastern corner north of the international

He said Khartoum would be willing to cede rights to the disputed territory but accused Cairo of trying to bully its weaker southern neighbour with threats and troop movements.

With a more genteel approach, we in the Sudan can give away this land, or even more," Mr. Ahu Salih said. "Bot Sndan, its people and government, cannot relinquish an inch of land taken through force or twisting of the



Egyptian police experts examine the Cairo site where a car bomb exploded Friday (AFP photo)

### Cairo blast death toll rises to 7

CAIRO (Agencies) — The death toll from Egypt's bloodiest bomb-ing in more than a year of political violence rose to seven Saturday when three critically-injured men

The government accused Mus-lim militants of planting the bomh, which exploded either under or inside a car parked outside a police station in central Cairo Friday.

But a known supporter of the main militant group, Al Gama'a Al Islamiya (Islamic Group), denied it had been involved and said it would not risk the lives of ordinary Egyptians.

Security sources said one of the three men who died Saturday was the brother of a girl who was killed instantly when the bomb hlew up. They said 20 people were now known to have been injured and several were in critical condition.

The sources said investigators had found the detonator of the bomb and a timer. They estimated the bomh had contained 1.5 to two kilogrammes of explo-

"This is a clear criminal work carried out by the terrorist groups, which have no religious aims whatsoever," the head of the state information service, Mamdouh Beltagi, told Reuters.

Asked whether Muslim mili-Major-General Fouad Hussain. Cairo's assistant police chief, told

Reuters: "There is no other possibility."
But a known supporter of the Gama'a contacted by Reuters said the group had nothing to do

with the blast. "We are not responsible for this incident," he said. "We can-not hurt ordinary Egyptians." The man asked not to be identi-

The explosion was the fifth extremist attack since December in the heart of the Egyptian capital and the bloodiest. It is the first time a carbomb has been used in more than a year of violence between Muslim extremists and

security forces. Security and hospitals officials said the number of wounded rose

A spokesman at Kasr Al Aini hospital said Abdallah Rashad, 5, hled from a brain injury. His brother Sayyed, 20, from internal hemorrage in the chest, and Hani Fadel, 20, also from a head

The official said a 15-year-old girl who died Friday was the Rashads' sister. Three others

died the same day.

Doctors said at least five other victims were in critical condition. Police detained the owner of the car and another man arrested at the scene to question them tants had been responsible, about possible links with extrem-

The government-owned Al

Gomhuria newspaper quoted security officials as saying the owner of the vehicle is a professor at Al Azhar, Islam's highest learning institution. He told police he had parked the car behind the police station two days before the explosion and left for bis town in the Nile Delta.

Police said the bomb was packed with nails and doctors said they extracted some from victims'

On Feb. 26, hours after the World Trade Centre bombing killed six people and wounded more than 1,000 in New York, a similar device exploded in a downtown Cairo cafe, killing three people and wounding more than a dozen. Two of the dead were foreign tourists.

Also Friday, an employee at Cairo airport found a rifle wrapped in cloth hidden in a communications room on the runway. Police are investigating.

In the town of Damietta on the Mediterranean, a boy found a box filled with gunpowder and ammunition in front of a school. Al Gama'a Al Islamiya has

intensified its violence campaign against Egypt's secular govern-ment since January 1992. It has attacked police, Christians and a vear ago started targetting tourists. More than 150 people have died in the violence, most of them

### hardliners campaign for constitution referendum

MOSCOW (R) — Hardline con-servatives say they have gathered enough signatures to force a nationwide referendum on bringing back a "Soviet socialist constitution," the conservative daily Prayda reported Saturday.

Reformist President Boris Yeltsin is planning a new con-stitution which would distance

Russia from its Soviet past.

But Pravda said the pro-Soviet organisation Workers' Russia had by May 16 gathered signatures from 1,090,000 opponents of Mr. Yeltsin's plans. Russian law allows a referendum to be called tion asking for it. "Parliamentary deputies are

now bound to decide to hold nationwide discussions of a draft Soviet socialist constitution which guarantees a life fit for a human being to the working man," Pravda said.
"Yeltsin wants to end months

of political stalemate over post-Soviet Russia's oews draft constitutioo, blocked by a conservative parliament hostile to his radical economic reforms. Buoyed by a popular eodorse-

ment of his presidency and reforms in an April referendum, Mr. Yeltsin bas bypassed parliament and invited representatives from Russia's 88 regions to meet io Moscow on June 5 to discuss aod perhaps pass a new constitu-Hardline groups oo the fringes of Russian politics said Friday they would hold their own rival

constitutional conference at the same time. They would also invite regional representatives to Moscow to draw up a separate draft constitution. Gennady Sayenko, a leading member of the conservative Rus-

sian Unity movement, told a news conference organisers of the hardliners' constitutional talks included his groop, the National Salvation Front, and the officers' union.

Interfax news agency reported the National Salvation Front had said it would picket the city centre and state buildings on 5-12 June to protect the existing con-stitution, a much-amended version of the former Soviet Union basic law of 1971.

The hardline groups have kept a low profile since the Russian workers' holiday on May 1, when their supporters clashed with police io Moscow.

#### and Associates, Monenco Agra, SNC-Lavalin Inc. and Zeton Inc. While in Saudi Arabia, Mr. McKnight will open a research and process simulation plant constructed by Zeton Inc. of Burlington, at the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology.

Indian foreign affairs official in Oman

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) - India's minister of state for foreign affairs arrived Saturday on a visit to promote political and economic relations and pave the way for a trip by Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao later this year. The minister, R.L. Bhatia, was met on arrival by Haitham Ben Tareq Al Saced. political affairs undersecretary at the Omani Foreign Ministry. He later met with Sultan Qaboos. According to Asian diplomats, Mr. Rao planned to visit Oman, but the date of the trip has nor been fixed. Mr. Bhatia also will visit the United Arab Emirates, but it was not clear if Mr. Rao also planned to go there. Omani-Indian cooperation in petrochemical and gas projects was high on Mr. Bhatia's agenda, said the diplomats. In March this year, Oman signed a memorandum of understanding for setting up two oil refineries in India.

### King warns against 'enemies of democracy'

(Continued from page 1)

"Those whom I used to meet earlier remember bow many times I have urged to rise above the level of insults and offence and to adopt a wise approach an to defend what is right and to offer ideas and not to fall into the

"In our dealing with one another we have to form what can be described as honesty and what can contribute to enhancing ties among the members of one family regardless of their origins.
"We have to create an

approach reflecting the spirit of can." responsibility and we have to check whatever we publish and to

rise to a high level in our morals' gional and international issues. to make our behaviour an, exam-Arab and foreign media.

"I do not believe that any one of my hrothers here... by the way I am addressing all people through you... would be happy with anything contrary to this or would allow himself to adopt other than this course.

"Once again I stress that that there is a law and people have obligations to this country and have duties to perform... I implore God to help us to carry out our duty in the best manner we

The King reiterated Jordan's ple and a model for others in the firm position with regard to domestic developments based on steadfastness, clarity of political stand and adherence to the principles of freedom, democracy and pluralism in the course of defending human rights.

> The King also referred to Jordan's position with regard to the Palestine question based on pan-Arab principles and the country's determination to attaio "just and comprehensive peace that can guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people in their national soil and acceptable to the future generations.

### said: "It makes me feel what my place is in the universe.

KIEV (R) — War has finally broken out hetween Russia and Ukraine over the disputed Black Sea Fleet — on a computer game used in bars in central Ukraine. The Kiev daily Nezavisimust re-ported Friday that the game, known as "Battle For The Black Sea", allows players to pit ships of the Russian Mavy against a computer with he Ukrainian Navy at its disposal. "There are state flags, shooting and everything else you would get in a real war," the daily said of the game in the city of Kremenchuk. Since the collapse of the Soviet Linion. Russia and Ukraine have been at odds over the 380-ship Black Sea Fleet. Both sides have agreed to joint command of the fleet pending division of the equipment in